FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

Fatah Clashes — Sporadic fighting continued in the Al-Biqa' valley between Fatah dissidents led by Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha and forces loyal to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to Beirut radio. Clashes took place in Kafr Zabad, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Artillery fire was exchanged between the two groups and 'Arafat loyalists shelled a Syrian roadblock in the town, prompting Syrian forces to shell Fatah loyalist positions, the radio reported. The pro-'Arafat group later launched a counterattack against dissident forces in Kafr Zabad. Meanwhile, loyalist reinforcements reentered Jdita, another radio report announced.

Support for Lebanese Front — Dissident leader Nimr Salih announced that Fatah dissidents are in "constant contact" with Lebanese National Salvation Front members to reach a "solid alliance" based on joint action in Palestine, according to JANA. In a statement to KUNA, PLO spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar reiterated PLO rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. The formation of the National Salvation Front, he added, reflects the "popular isolation" of the agreement.

'Arafat Visit to SFRY — Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Belgrade and is expected to discuss the role of the Nonaligned Movement in helping to solve the Middle East crisis, TANJUG stated.

Al-Hasan on Split — In a statement to Rabat radio, Khalid al-Hasan, chairman of the PNC foreign relations committee, said the Fatah split was caused by Arab forces which "seek to control the PLO by controlling Fatah." Palestinian support for 'Arafat almost represents a "complete referendum," he added.

Israel

West Bank — An IDF soldier and four Arabs were wounded during disturbances at Bi'r Zayt College, IDF Radio reported. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio speculated that the murder of Arab students in Hebron may have been linked to Palestinian political rivalries or may have been carried out in the belief that Jewish settlers would be blamed thus prompting widespread clashes with Arabs. The daily *Ha'aretz* blamed Jewish settlers, asserting that only a blind person cannot see that the crime was "an act of revenge" for the murder of Jewish student Aharon Gross, according to the radio's press review. The paper held the government responsible for failing to stop the settlers "acting like the Ku Klux Klan" toward the Arabs.

An Amman television commentary described Israeli official condemnation of the Hebron murder as "an attempt to delude world public opinion." Israeli authorities continue to commit crimes and massacres against Arabs directly or through their henchmen while at the same time trying to maintain an unblemish-ed image in the world, the television contended.

Levi Remarks — Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi said Jewish settlers in "Judaea and Samaria" should continue to carry arms for their personal safety, adding that the authorities will handle any illegal use of these arms, Jerusalem radio reported. Levi also mentioned that the Israeli-Egyptian border has not been quiet lately because of attempts to trigger terrorist activity in Gaza. The Egyptians try to prevent terrorist activity from their territory but are not always successful, Levi said.

Lebanon

IDF Redeployment — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir pledged that the IDF redeployment is the "first step" toward a total withdrawal after the United States requested assurances, Jerusalem radio reported. The new position of the IDF forces will lie north of Sidon, according to an ITIM correspondent. Sidon is to be considered a "military zone," an IDF spokesman cited by *Hatzofe stated. Military regulations will apply in the city.*

In remarks made at a news conference broadcast by IDF Radio, IDF Chief of Staff Levi opined that the Syrians will withdraw from Lebanon only after exacting a high political or financial price. The IDF, he continued, will only coordinate the withdrawal with the Lebanese Army and not with any multinational forces called in by President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Franjiyah on New Front — Former President Sulayman Franjiyah declared in a press conference that the National Salvation Front supports a Lebanese policy of avoiding all alliances outside the Arab League, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported. The goal of the front is to fight the "agents of Israel and one-party rule," Franjiyah said. As long as the government is not a one-party regime, the front will use democratic means to achieve its goals, he added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces killed 300 Iranians in further fighting in the northern sector, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. Earlier, an INA analysis of the military situation said over 3,000 Iranians had been killed in the battles in the area. INA noted the Iraqi leadership's view that the Iranian offensive in the north was only a "silly trick" designed to divert Iraq's attention from an imminent Iranian attack against its II Army Corps.

Meanwhile, Iranian forces reinforced their positions in the Hajj 'Umran area in the face of "desperate" Iraqi efforts to recapture "liberated" territory, Tehran radio reported. The radio listed 12,000 Kalashnikov submachine guns among Iraqi equipment captured in the Iranian offensive, adding that Iranian officers believe this large number of light weapons was designed for use by "counterrevolutionary and mercenary agents" inside Iran.

Iran

Gulf Security, Oil Slick — The United States' declared intention to ensure free shipping in the Persian Gulf is a "brazen insult" to the Gulf states and should be condemned by all of them, a Foreign Ministry spokesman announced in a statement reported by Tehran radio. The renewed U.S. "threat" confirms Iran's view that Iraq intends to drag the superpowers into the region, the spokesman said. In another development, Mirza Taheri, the head of Iran's Environmental Protection Agency, called on the Arab states to cooperate with Iran by bringing pressure on Iraq so that measures can be arranged to cap the leaking Iranian oil wells. Speaking in an interview with Bushehr radio during a visit to Khark Island, Taheri said Iran is capable of capping the wells itself if the security of the Gulf is guaranteed by Iraq.

Nationalist "Operation" for 5 August — The 14-Mordad Organization has called on Iranians to support its first "nationalistic and organizational operation," scheduled for 5 August, the clandestine Radio Iran announced. The radio declared its complete support for the "patriotic warriors" in the organization.

Iranian-Saudi Pilgrimage Dispute

Saudi Arabia has announced its readiness to issue entry visas to Iranian pilgrims but is still obstructing those pilgrims seeking accommodation in Mecca and Medina, the head of Iran's Pilgrimage Organization announced in remarks reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service. Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif described this as "a lie and a calumny," asserting that the Kingdom has never stopped the pilgrimage and always does its best to make pilgrims comfortable, according to a statement transmitted by SPA. Dismissing Iran's "false claims and accusations" against the Kingdom regarding the Iranian pilgrims, whose recent "strange practices" have often contradicted Islamic rules, Prince Nayif said Saudi Arabia has put up with more than any other country would bear over this issue. Saudi Arabia welcomes Iranian pilgrims within the limits of numbers dictated by its "limited ability" to accommodate them, he stated, but the Kingdom will not hesitate to take measures against those who try to "disturb security or do anything to contradict Islamic rules." The pilgrims should respect regulations and dedicate themselves completely to performing the pilgrimage "and nothing else."

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'Arafat Discusses Soviets, Syrians, Rebels

PM271607 Rome L'Espresso in Italian 24 Jul 83 pp 30-34

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Dina Nasnett at Hotel Salwa near Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpt] Tunis — Question: Why did you not go to Moscow?

Answer: I am too busy here. At the moment I did not consider it opportune to make this visit.

Question: But that did not prevent you from sending urgent secret messages to the Kremlin twice in the past few days... Why? Are you afraid that Moscow is backing your adversaries?

Answer: You should put this question to the Soviet leaders, not to me... Anyway, as far as I know, Moscow is resolutely opposed to what is happening...

Question: But the Soviet leaders have not adopted a clear stance in your favor. They have confined themselves to urging your organizations and the Arab world as a whole to unite. Is that enough?

Answer: Of course it is enough. If the Soviets are in favor of unity, it means they are against the rebels.

Question: It is said that that is not exactly how things stand. It is said, for instance, that you did not go to Moscow because you were afraid of receiving some kind of dismissal from the Kremlin...

Answer: Listen, I can only repeat what I have said. Go and ask the Kremlin, not me.

Question: Everyone believes that the USSR wants to take advantage of your internal crisis and of the inter-Arab crisis to try to recover its foothold in the Middle East, from which it has been excluded. What is your opinion?

Answer: Nonsense. Journalistic speculations. The USSR has never "used" the Palestinian problems and I do not believe that it either wants to or can do so, because the Soviet leaders are well aware that we Palestinians would never permit it, neither for the USSR nor any other power. I am sure that the Soviets really respect out revolution, our options, and our democracy. You should remember that they have supported the PLO since its birth.

Question: Last year, however, during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon the USSR did very little for you...

Answer: Do I have to tell you that there are the Yalta agreements; that there is a red line that divides the world into sides? Well, despite this red line, the Soviets did their best and helped us as they could.

Question: Let us come now to the Arab world. What are the Arab countries' responsibilities for what is happening within Fatah?

Answer: There are many, very many. It is not the first time, either. In 1972, with that turncoat Abu Nidal, we had problems no different from the present ones. And there have been other episodes marked by interference. But of course I must admit that now it is much more serious. We are witnessing a huge provocation, because this is all happening just a year after our exodus from Beirut. Our troops are dispersed across several countries. We no longer have our military potential. Many Arab states are taking advantage of our weakness to try to impose their will on us. And by so doing they are making our situation even more critical...

Question: Is this the first time the Arab countries have moved on such a massive scale against your leadership?

Answer: Come, now! Back in 1976, when they invaded Lebanon to get us under control, the Syrians used against us Palestinians trained and paid by them. Now history is repeating itself. The Syrians are using groups such as Ahmad Jibril's [PFLP-General Command] or As-Sa'iqah to oppose me. And they are fabricating a figure such as Abu Musa.

Question: But you seem fairly conciliatory with respect to the Syrians and your opponents, to the extent that you have said you are prepared to withdraw your troops from Al-Biqa'...

Answer: I did say that, it is true. And I will do so. Because I do not want clashes with Syria.

Question: But what will happen to your men in Al-Biqa'?

Answer: We are prepared to go to Tripoli, in northern Lebanon.

Question: Am I mistaken or are there Syrian troops in Tripoli too?

Answer: You are not mistaken, but this is the only way to avoid armed clashes in Al-Biqa'. I am sincere when I say that I want to reach an agreement with Syria, and with Libya too. What has happened so far is certainly not my fault. Al-Qadhdhafi has shouldered his responsibilities. He has stated publicly that he ordered his troops in Al-Biqa' to fight the Palestinians loyal to me.

Question: Let us talk about the Palestinians no longer loyal to you. Among other things, they accuse you of using authoritarian and paternalistic methods, and demand greater democracy within Fatah and the PLO. What do you say?

Answer: More democracy? But if they really wanted more democracy they would not be using these fascist methods and would not allow themselves to be dominated by some crazed Arab regime! Moreover, ask anyone: Is our organization not democratic enough? Has dissent been stifled? You ask!

Question: Let us take one question, that of the negotiations with King Husayn which got underway at the time, and then failed. Was this failure not due to your enemies' interference?

Answer: The PNC, which is our highest representative body, accepted the dialogue between the PLO and King Husayn.

Important decisions were taken, including the one to authorize a confederation between the Palestinians and Jordan.

Question: But the rebels rejected and still reject this dialogue with Jordan. Is that not true?

Answer: I spoke of the National Council, which expresses the Palestinian people's will, and not of some marginal group in the service of certain Arab countries. I spoke of our choices, and not of those inspired or suggested by the interference of Arab regimes. So, please, let us stop talking about those rebels!

Question: Fine, let's talk about Husayn then. Why did the dialogue with him fail?

Answer: And who said it failed? I have always said that the door to negotiations is open. It depends on Husayn whether he wishes to continue the discussion or not.

Question: Okay. So why has the dialogue come to a standstill?

Answer: It is obvious that there are disagreements between us and Husayn. The negotiations with him were to have a very clear basis: the peace plan approved at the Fes summit, which was approved by all the Arab countries, including Jordan. I do not understand why the king denied it during the negotiations...

Question: The Syrians and Libyans are attacking you. The Iraqis do not like you. Husayn is driving a hard bargain with you. I heard one of your refugees here say that in a future Palestinian state, Arab diplomatic representation will not be accepted. Have things reached that point?

Answer: It is painful and terrible... The Arabs do not understand that anything which harms us also harms them, the Arab nation. Ours is a long march, like Mao's. It is certainly more difficult. At least Mao was marching on his own land, within the bounds of his country. We are forced to act without a country, without homes, and with few arms. And with many enemies. Ours is a long historical march which is reflected in and impinges on everything which surrounds us. I fear that it also impinges on the Arab countries. They will change, and for the better, thanks to the Palestinian revolution. And Israel too will change...

Question: If Israel changed its attitude, would you accept an invitation from Begin to go to Jerusalem?

Answer: I will not negotiate with Begin. He is a terrorist. Have you already forgotten the women and children massacred in Sabra and Shatila? Moreover, Begin is the symbol of those people in Israel who reject any negotiated solution with us. How long does he think he can control everything by repression, and by force of arms? Does he really think it can last forever?

Question: However, some malicious people say that you have initiated a secret agreement with Israel...

Answer: I categorically deny it. It is absolutely untrue.

Question: But in that case, with whom will you negotiate? And on what basis?

Answer: The bases are clear — those which were fixed by the Fes summit. If anybody has objections, he must make them known.

Question: Okay. One last question. Last year you left Beirut making the victory sign. Where is the victory now?

Answer: It will strike you as paradoxical, but I tell you that we are now stronger. Events in the occupied territories show that the movement is active, alive, and determined, despite everything. The Palestinians never fail to surprise the world. We will surprise it again, you can count on that.

'Arafat in Yugoslavia for Official Visit

Statement on Arrival

AU271445 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has arrived in Belgrade at the invitation of the SFRY Presidency in an official friendly visit to our country. Let us hear a report by Dragan Petrovic:

At the Batajnica airfield, Yasir 'Arafat and his associates were welcomed by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, with the highest state honors. A cordial welcome was also extended to the guests by Vojo Srzentic, president of the SFRY Assembly; Luka Reljic, member of the Federal Executive Council; Rista Jovanovic, member of the Presidency of Serbia; Miljan Komatina, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; and other distinguished personalities of sociopolitical life in Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav People's Army.

Descending from a special plane of the Saudi Royal Airforce, by which he arrived in our country, 'Arafat made a short statement for the Yugoslav journalists, saying:

[Recording of 'Arafat's voice in English faded out after a few words, Serbo-Croatian translation superimposed] I expect that this visit, too, will confirm the understanding and the strong support by the friendly people of Yugoslavia and its leadership for the just struggle of the Palestinian people. [end recording]

In 'Arafat's opinion, there are many subjects to be discussed in the forthcoming talks with the host, Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, and a special subject will be the Middle East crisis in this truly decisive and critical moment. 'Arafat also stressed that the role of the nonaligned countries in solving the Middle East problem will undoubtedly be one of the most important questions during his visit to Yugoslavia. The official Yugoslav-Palestinian talks will begin this afternoon in the Palace of the Federation.

Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, will give a festive dinner tonight in honor of Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO, and it is expected that toasts will be exchanged at it.

'Arafat Speech at Dinner

LD272235 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2115 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Jul (TANJUG) — "It gives me pleasure to be able, on behalf of the Palestinian people, the PLO Executive Committee and the members of the delegation, to express the feelings of love and respect we have for your people. We value your principled attitudes reflected in the support you are extending to the just struggle of our people, the victory of our cause, and the cause of the whole Arab nation. I note with pride the development of the historical relations between the Palestinian people and your people, relations whose foundations were laid by the great man, Josip Broz Tito. Waging our national struggle in all areas and at all levels, we are inspired by your heroic struggle against the Nazis and the fascists." This was stated today by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in his reply to President Mika Spiljak's toast.

'Arafat added: "You are undoubtedly following the difficult and severe circumstances that our Palestinian Arab people are experiencing inside and outside the occupied territory, where they are being assailed by the imperialist, Zionist, and fascist forces which are continuing their loathsome and immoral terror. The most convincing example of these grave terrorist actions of our time are the massacres in Sabra and Shatila, our camps in Lebanon, as well as the massacre that took place in the occupied Palestinian town of Hebron yesterday, to which one should add the day-to-day torture to which our people are exposed as a result of the organized policy of oppression practiced by the Zionist-racists in desperate attempts to deal a blow to the spirit of the revolution and struggle, denying the human and national rights of the Palestinian people.

"This policy of oppression and terror however has not prevented our heroic Palestinian people from continuing their persistent struggle and resistance, for the implementation of their right to return, to self-determination, and to establishment of an independent state on their national soil, with the capital in Jerusalem."

In his toast, 'Arafat emphasized the impressive uprising and rebellion, and the deep link between the Palestinian people and its revolution, as well as the consistent loyalty to the PLO as the sole representative of the people and leader of their national liberation struggle. "You, too, undoubtedly follow the course of the great events in our region. At the center of these events are Palestine and Lebanon, where the Zionist-American plot aims at imposing division. The danger of this plot also threatens other parts of our Arab homeland.

"I have already drawn attention, 'Arafat continued, to the danger of these trends, especially on the occasion of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and during the heroic battle won by the Lebanese and Palestinian people while opposing the Zionist aggression in which the most modern American weapons were used. We are struggling by all means against this plot together with our allies in the Lebanese Progressive Front. At the same time, we call on all peaceloving forces to firmly resist this plot in order to save Lebanon from the danger which threatens it, and which we are facing in the conditions of Zionist occupation and the imposition of the Israeli-American conditions."

"Despite the difficult conditions through which our struggle is passing in the Mideast, including the problems which we face in the Al-Biqa' valley in northern Lebanon, the Palestinian people and revolution do not feel that they stand alone in the battlefield. Together with you we are struggling effectively within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement, in which Yugoslavia occupies an important place. We feel the significance of the broad international support our just cause is receiving and on which our just liberation struggle relies.

"This support is constantly expressed by the Nonaligned Movement, the African, Islamic, and socialist grouping of countries. This encourages us still further to continue our militant vanguard role in opposing imperialism and Zionism and for the realization of our inalienable national rights. I should like to express gratitude once more on my own behalf and on behalf of the members of the delegation for the hospitality which again proves Yugoslavia's principled and firm attitudes to our people, its inalienable national rights, and to the PLO, which represents and leads them in their national struggle," Yasir 'Arafat said in conclusion.

More on 'Arafat Visit

For additional Yugoslav reportage on the official visit to the SFRY of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, see the Yugoslvia section of the Eastern Europe *Daily Report*for 27-28 July.

PLO's Abu Mayzar Examines Palestinian Issues

LD271808 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1629 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, 27 Jul (KUNA) — Official PLO spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has declared that Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir have been preparing, with the U.S. Administration, a new aggression against the Palestine revolution and Syria.

In a statement to KUNA, Abu Mayzar said that the visit by Shamir and Arens to the United States, the conditions and timing of the visit, the actions preceding it, and those participating from the American side affirm beyond any doubt that a new Israeli-American aggression is being hatched against Syria and the Palestinianrevolution, and that the talks between the two sides dealt with the determination of the objectives and political and military extent of this aggression. He added that this demands vigilance and caution, and makes it the duty of all countries and forces of progress and liberation in the world to expose the American and Zionist designs in the Middle East.

On the Hebron massacre, Abu Mayzar said that the massacres perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied territories, the most recent of which was the Hebron massacre, will not intimidate our people but will only enhance their determination to hold on to their land and to stand fast in the face of occupation. He added that our people's revolutionaries will counter these massacres by escalating the armed struggle in more than one area. The Israeli occupation's crimes will not go unpunished. We urge our people in every village, city, and camp

to escalate their upsurge against these massacres in order to foil the terrorist objectives the enemy is seeking through its racist practices.

On the progress made by the Palestinian six-member committee headed by Khalid al-Fahum, Abu Mayzar said that the committee is continuing its contacts with the various parties concerned to crystalize specific views for solving differences. He added that during its last meeting in Tunisia, the Executive Committee affirmed the importance of the continuation of the six-member committee's work. It vested additional powers in it in order to crystallize specific views for solving the crisis within Fatah and to work for the restoration of normalization in Palestinian-Syrian relations in implementing the PNC resolutions, which affirm the importance of these relations from the point of view of Arab nationalism and the Arab future on the grounds that both the PLO and Syria are in the frontline against the common Israeli enemy.

With regard to the PLO's attitude toward the creation of the Lebanese National Salvation Front, Abu Mayzar said the PLO has previously declared its rejection and denunciation of the Israeli-Phalangist agreement, affirming its determination to resist it. It supports every national Lebanese and Arab effort aimed at aborting that agreement and saving Lebanon from its grave effects on the Lebanese, Palestinian, and Arab levels. Undoubtedly the formation of this front, with the forces it embraces, reflects the extent of the popular isolation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and gives credence to the serious political trends in the Lebanese arena. Abu Mayzar said that all Lebanese national forces oppose and denounce the agreement and work to abort it.

On the holding of an extraordinary PNC session, Abu Mayzar said that only a few months have so far passed since the council's last meeting, and that the Executive Committee's decision was confined to calling for a meeting of the Central Council and not the PNC to discuss new developments in the Palestinian arena since the PNC's meeting in Algeria. He added that calling on the PNC to meet in these current conditions will endanger national unity which we are anxious to bolster and protect.

In conclusion, he said that the PLO Executive Committee has not discussed the question of a Palestinian government-in-exile and nobody has proposed discussing this matter. He added that we believe raising this idea at present will not serve the combat objectives of the Palestinians and the Arabs, and that the PLO expressed its views clearly toward this idea when it was first proposed by As-Sadat.

Khalil al-Wazir Views Fatah, Syrian Disputes

GF261551 Doha QNA in Arabic 1140 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Doha, 26 Jul (QNA) — Khalil al-Wazir (alias Abu Jihad), deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has announced that he is present wherever his forces are stationed, whether in Al-Biqa' or Tripoli in Lebanon, in order to follow-up the developments at the current stage. This was Abu Jihad's response to the question of whether has taken Tripoli as his residence, which he was asked during a telephone conversation with QNA from where he is stationed among the Palestinian revolution forces in Lebanon.

Answering QNA's question on the dispute inside Fatah, Abu Jihad affirmed that the Palestinian leadership is exerting all its efforts to solve this issue, and that it is important to achieve a solution by the Palestinians before anything else. He said that the dialogue on the Fatah dispute with the brothers in Syria should begin in order to solve it without any hesitation. He affirmed Fatah's concern about solving this dispute because it has a big effect on solving the dissidents' issue inside Fatah.

Abu Jihad said: We are continuing to exert our efforts in this direction, through Palestinian and Arab meetings and the attempt to hold a limited or large Arab summit, as well as through international contacts, with every friend who can have an influence. He stressed that the continuation of the Palestinian-Syrian dispute has a big effect on the course of the Palestinian or Arab struggle. He said that Fatah has announced its support for any quick Arab effort. In order to facilitate this, Fatah announced that it will stop responding to the information campaigns so that objectivity can be maintained. In this regard, he pointed to the continuous contacts which are being held by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat with the Arab leaders.

Abu Jihad affirmed the Fatah forces' commitment not to escalate the situation with the dissidents and said that the dissident groups of Jibril and Abu Musa are the ones that begin the escalations.

Referring to reports on the formation of a Palestinian governent-in-exile and Fatah's stance in this regard, Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces said: If some brothers theoretically raised the issue of a government-in-exile or the possibility of responding or not responding to the requirements of the stage in confronting the pressures which aim at the independent national Palestinian decision, it does not mean that the issue of the government [in exile] currently exists. He said: It is not yet time to announce the establishment of a government-in-exile. There are many requirements which need to be achieved before the announcement of this government.

Fatah's Al-Hasan Assesses Rebel Mutiny

PM271357 Riyadh Ar-Riyad in Arabic 20 Jul 83 pp 1,21

[Aminah 'Atallah report: "Khalid al-Hasan Reveals Details of Mutiny to *Ar-Riyad*"]

[Excerpt] Tunis — Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan has revealed that the mutineers had originally planned to declare their dissension while the PNC was in session in Algiers.

In an interview with Ar-Riyad, Al-Hasan said that the mutineers had, with the support of an Arab state, prepared their mutiny plan to the last detail and even chose a new name for the PLO. He said that the mutineers' plan was to raise issues and submit draft resolutions which, they imagined, the PNC and Fatah would reject and, in protest against the rejection, they would announce their dissension and the creation of a new organization.

The name they chose for that organization was "PLO, the Corrective Movement."

Khalid al-Hasan also said that a representative of the leader of an Arab state which gave the mutineers funds and support was in Algiers at the time, and he was in continuous contact with the mutineers. The plan, Al-Hasan said, failed because nobody in the PNC wanted to dissent, and the mutineers were faced with an overwhelming majority or even unanimity on all draft resolutions and they lost their chance to dissent because there was not excuse or justification.

Refuting the recent pretext used by the mutineers — namely their objection to certain military decisions made by Yasir 'Arafat — Al-Hasan said: These decisions were in fact made by Fatah's military council where decisions are made on the basis of a majority. All the mutineers were members of the council and they had every right to take whatever objections they had to the council, or further to the Revolutionary Council.

The Revolutionary Council, Al-Hasan said, was scheduled to convene at the end of May, the month when the mutiny began, but the mutineers declared their mutiny before that date and turned down the invitation to attend the council meeting despite the fact that they were members of the council and had a natural opportunity to introduce their reforms there. Al-Hasan concluded that this mutiny was an extension of what was supposed to take place at the PNC. The aim, he said, was to turn the PLO into an organization loyal to one or more Arab states, hence the call for a new leadership with 50 per cent of its members from the old leadership and the other 50 per cent from the mutineers' camp.

Al-Hasan expressed hope that the "disagreement would soon end, especially with Syria, because Syria is the bottleneck of the Middle East. There also should be no disagreement among the Palestinians when it comes to confronting the Zionist enemy."

Explosion Reported Near Tripoli Fatah Office

NC272142 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that at about 2215 this evening, a booby-trapped car exploded near the An-Nahr al-Barid Camp [in Tripoli], specifically near a Fatah office. It has been learned that a number of people were killed or injured, but how many is not yet known.

In Al-Biqa', our correspondent reports that 'Arafat's loyalists are still in control of the Kafr Zabad township, which the inhabitants left and where there are only armed men. The correspondent says that Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] has warned the Abu Ahmad Isma'il group to surrender before 0600 tomorrow. Abu Ahmad Isma'il answered by reinforcing his positions in the Khatri Hotel and setting up fortifications.

The 'Arafat group launched counterattacks this evening in Kafr Zabad, inflicting losses on the dissidents.

Palestinian Clashes Continue in Al-Biqa'

NC271451 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Syrian Army and the Libyan groups have addressed an ultimatum to the residents of Kafr Zabad and 'Ayn Kafr Zabad to hand over their heavy weapons. The residents are being held responsible for any security disturbance. Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that there is a third party in Ta'lbaya participating in the shelling of the two warring Palestinian parties. He explained that this party also shelled the Az-Za'rur area, where the struggle front has a permanent center. Our correspondent also says that the Syrians used tank guns in Ta'nayil, while the Abu 'Ammar group positioned two tanks and two 106-mm cannons in the Ta'lbaya area.

Meanwhile, the clashes have continued between Fatah and the dissidents in the Al-Biqa', where clashes took place in the Kafr Zabad area. Heavy caliber artillery and medium weapons were used in these clashes. The Abu 'Ammar group positioned an artillery battery inside the village and shelled a Syrian barrier at the entrance to the village, killing one Syrian soldier and wounding two others. This prompted the Syrian forces to shell the pro-'Arafat positions from (Mazra'at al-Juraysati). Our correspondent says that the clashes turned into exchanges of machinegun fire. A weapons' depot belonging to Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC exploded at 1115 today in Qusaya village in Az-Biqa'.

It has been reported that four 'Arafat gunmen were killed and 10 others were either wounded or taken prisoner during the clashes on the Al-Fa'ur-Kafr Zabad axis. The reports say that the 'Arafat group captured 30 members of the Abu Musa group, who were taken to Kafr Zabad and locked in St George Church. The bodies of six dissidents were found in the Kafr Zabad plain, three from 'Arab Al-Fa'ur and two from the 'Arafat loyalists.

Loyalists Receive 200 Reinforcements

NC271803 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1725 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Our correspondent's latest report says that the Yasir 'Arafat group led by Abu Ahmad Isma'il has received 200 reinforcements. They entered Al-Harah at-Tahta in Jdita to lift the siege imposed by the Abu Musa group and the Syrian forces in Al-Kassarat and (?Tall as-Sab).

A Grad missile was fired at 1500 today from the Barr Ilyas area, where Abu Musa men are positioned, and hit a missile base in Qusaya Dayr al-Ghazal belonging to 'Arafat's group.

Israel, Begin Scored Over Hebron 'Massacre'

JN271833 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1640 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Station political commentary]

[Text] No sensible person in this world can separate the policy of terrorism, mass annihilation, and massacres, which is being

implemented by Menahem Begin and the members of the ruling clique in the racist Zionist entity, and those massacres and killings of Palestinian strugglers and the besieging of Fatah basses which are carried out by Zionism's new agents, who are backed by the Arab regimes, especially the Damascus and Tripoli regimes.

The new massacre against our kinfolk in Hebron is the outcome of the sanguinary policy which is led by enemy Prime Minister Menahem Begin. And, considering the criminal philosphy upheld by Begin, we assume that this sanguinary policy will continue against the Palestinian people in the hope of achieving the terrorist clique's objectives of evicting the Palestinians from their towns or striking at their political framework and sole legitimate representative, the PLO, in the manner we are now witnessing in Al-Biqa'.

For a long time now the Zionist wager has been based on the policy of annihilation in order to empty the land of its people. More than that, the policy of annihilation has pursued the Palestinian outside the occupied territory, targeting on the Palestinian abroad, just as it is targeting on the Palestinian and his land inside the occupied territory. Thus, the Zionist enemy has organized the chain of massacres, which began with Dayr Yasin and was followed by Sabra and Shatila. These massacres will not end with yesterday's massacre in Hebron.

The policy of annihilating the Palestinians pursued by the Zionist enemy has been adopted by Arab regimes. These regimes have in fact adopted this policy in the past on behalf of or in coordination with the enemy. Just as we Palestinians and Arabscannot forget Dayr Yasin, Qibya, Kafr Qasim, Sabra, and Shatila, we must not also forget Dbayyih, Tal az-Za'tar, and Jisr Al-Basha. Just it is impossible for us to forget the new Hebron massacre against the Palestinian students, we must not forget the massacres of Al-Biqa', Dayzannun, and 'Anjar. Just it is impossible for us to forget the blood of Hebron martyrs Jamal As'ad Nazzal, Sa'd ad-Din Hasan Sabri, Samir Fikri and Ilham Abu Za'rur, the daughter of Nabulus who fell in the capital of the mountain of fire [the traditional name given to the Nabulus area], we must not forget the blood of Halim, Bilal and other martyrs of the revolution who fell in Al-Biqa' in defense of the revolution's independent national decisionmaking.

Can anyone separate blood and blood cells in the same vein. It is impossible. Therefore, can the 5 million Palestinians and 150 million Arabs separate the Zionist hand, which is annihilating our students in Hebron and Nabulus, and the Zionist hand which is assassinating our strugglers and fighters in Al-Biqa' and besieging their bases with tanks?

The sanguinary policy, which is being implemented against the Palestinians in Hebron, Nabulus, and the occupied territory, has another face in Al-Biqa' at the hands of the criminals, the agents of Zionism, who are manipulated by their very progressive forces in the intelligence centers of the Damascus and Tripoli regimes. Palestinian blood is being spilled in Hebron and Nabulus at the hands of the Zionist neo-Nazis, and in Al-Biqa' at the hands of the rancorous, on whom the masses of Hebron, Jerusalem, Nabulus, and Gaza have passed the sentence of the people and declared that the people are inoocent of them, because they have become a real Zionist arm after all their alleged reformist claims, which have been born and nurtured in the cellars of the Arab regimes, have been disproved. Has the blood of the Hebron University students and the blood of Ilham Abu Za'rur in Nabulus, the colleague of Muntaha al-Hurani, Rabi'ah ash-Shalaldih, and Dalal al-Mughrabi not moved these agents? Has the blood of Halim and Bilal not moved them? Whoever spills Palestinian blood inside or outside the occupied territory is a murderer and a criminal, and a Zionist first and foremost. Whoever does not heed the appeals of the kinfolk in Al-Biqa' and the kinfolk in the occupied territory to stop the internecine fighting is an outright traitor against whom the will of the people and the sentence of the revolution must be carried out.

O kinfolk in Nabulus, Hebron, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Al-Birah, Janin, and Tulkarm; O kinfolk in Al-Biqa' camps: the Zionist sanguinary policy, the policy of the war of annihilation which your fighting vanguards defeated in last year's war, will not succeed in the occupied territory and Al-Biqa', whether at the hands of Zionism or its agents. These people, who are not afraid of terrorism, and this revolution, which is enduring its wounds, will not be affected by the Zionist Nazi sanguinary policy and the new Zionist agents in Al-Biqa'. The pure blood which was shed in Hebron, Nabulus, and Al-Biqa' will continue to be the incentive and the sacrament which will chase the Zionist enemy and its agents until they pay a heavier price than they expect for the crimes they have committed.

PFLP Source Condemns Incident

JN271908 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus — A responsible PFLP source has held the racial Zionist entity's government and institutions fully responsible for the massacre which the gangs of the Zionist settlers committed yesterday in occupied Hebron. The source considered this massacre as an example of the official and systematic terrorism practiced by the tools of the Zionist entity. The source stressed that this crime — which was committed yesterday by the Zionist gangs which stormed the University of Hebron, used machineguns and handgrenades against the students, and killed or wounded more than 40 students — will not pass without punishment.

The source said that this massacre is as hideous, racial, and inhuman as the massacres of the Sabra and Shatila camps last year. The source pointed out that the crime was committed after the Zionists had closed and besieged Hebron and made it a military zone controlled by the official Zionist occupation forces. The source added that this proves that the Zionist army and government, led by the terrorist Begin, protect and encourage the gangs of Zionist settlers. The source said that the new crime is within the framework of the Zionist movement's policy toward Arab Palestine, which is aimed at terrorizing the sons of our people and forcing them to leave Hebron in order to allow Zionist settlers to settle there.

BAHRAIN

Hijacked Iranian Airplane Lands, Departs

GF280740 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Manama, 28 Jul (WAKH) — WAKH has learned from Bahrain International Airport sources that a small hijacked Iranian plane performed an emergency landing in Bahrain yesterday evening. The plane's hijackers demanded that they be allowed to leave Bahrain. The plane, which is a twin engine Aero Commander and which carries three persons, left Bahrain Airport after refueling.

KUWAIT

GCC Urged To React to Iranian 'Threats'

LD280827 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0711 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Jul (KUNA) — In its editorial today, *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* calls on the GCC states to react quickly to the situation arising from the Iranian threats to disrupt Gulf oil exports. It warns that the Iranian threat to close the Gulf at the Strait of Hormuz is a great risk, one which no country, not even Iran, can tolerate, because it means inviting the United States to use its Rapid Deployment Forces and any accompanying great dangers which such action might bring to all states of the region.

Instead of cooperating and responding to efforts aimed at stopping the shedding of blood, and aiding resources and energies, the paper says, Iran has resorted to threats to close the strait and disrupt Gulf oil exports. This is the greatest danger facing the region because it involves the possibility of intervention by foreign elements awaiting the right opportunity to pounce and dominate on the pretext of insuring the vital oil supplies which are necessary to continue the wheel of life moving in the Western world.

The paper concludes its comment by saying: Regardless of the explanation which could be given to developments on the Iraqi-Iranian war front, Iran's attempt to widen the area of confrontation and introduce Gulf economic interests in its conflict with Iraq must be met by GCC states with an immediate meeting and the setting up of a united Gulf force capable of handling the new developments clearly and unequivocally. It should be done in a manner that would insure the intrinsic defense of the region, and deliver it from the problems it is experiencing as a result of regional and world circumstances and developments.

OMAN

Central Bank Official Reports on Economy

GF271150 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 27 Jul 83 p 11

[By P.S. Ramanthan]

[Text] Muscat — The overall performance of Oman's economy during the year 1982-83 was marked by continued expansion. Despite declining revenue from oil, government expenditure, which is the prime impetus to growth, was maintained as planned and the development outlays reached budgetary targets.

In his foreword to the 1982 annual report, president and deputy chairman of the Central Bank of Oman [CBO], Dr 'Abu al-Wahab Khayatah, points out that though the oil sector was unfavourably affected by factors outside its control and there were significant declines in crude prices, the sector's ability to adjust itself revealed its resilience.

The year witnessed increased crude production, capacity expansion and discovery of high-quality oil and gas deposits, and in respect to refined oil, Oman became independent of foreign supplies for the first time, following the commissioning of the Mina al-Fahal refinery in the capital area in November.

The non-oil sector experienced growth evidenced by the increased levels of government expenditure and imports. And it was satisfying that such a growth rate could be achieved with minimal rise in prices. The government gave added fillip to diversification of economy by way of expanded institutional assistance to industries, agriculture, fishing and housing.

Dr Khayatah notes that the banking sector maintained a rapid growth, expanding existing services while at the same time introducing new ones.

The growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at a slow rate, witnessed after the peak of 1980, was expected to continue. While the oil sector had contracted, the other sectors, especially agriculture and fisheries, construction, trade and services, have expanded considerably. The unavailability of national accounts estimates for 1982 (at the time of the publication of the annual report), however, precludes more certain comments on economic growth for the year.

Government revenue for the year dropped by 9.3 per cent, from RO 1312.2 million to RO 1190.1 million in 1982. This decline was due to a 6.1 percent drop in oil revenue to RO 1057.3 million; a decrease of 13.4 percent in other revenues to RO 118.1 million; and a fall in grants from RO 50 million in 1981 to RO 14.7 million last year.

All major components of oil receipts showed a drop in 1982 as compared to the previous year: royalty and income-tax fell by 10.7 per cent to RO 332.8 million; value of sales of government oil to petroleum development in Oman dropped by 3.5 per cent to RO 189.9 million; and sale value of government oil to third parties fell by four percent to RO 534 million.

Government expenditure continued to grow, though at a slower rate of 16.2 percent as compared to 27 percent in 1981. Civil current expenditure rose by 15.3 percent to RO 332.2 million; defence enpenditure grew by 5.2 percent to RO 581.3 million and capital expenditure went up by 24.5 percent to RO 395.2 million. The increase in capital expenditure was mostly on electricity and water, agriculture and fisheries, civil works and structures, education and health, as well as oil production. Over the year, the narrowly-defined money supply, M-1, recorded a moderate increase of 17.4 per cent to RO 255.6 million, compared to the

growth rates of 28.5 percent and 36 percent, respectively in 1980 and 1981.

The currency component increased by 11.7 percent to RO 129.8 million, while demand deposits rose by 23.9 per cent to RO 125.8 million.

Domestic liquidity, M-2, rose by a higher rate of 24.3 percentto RO 552.2 million in 1982, owing to the faster growth of 32.2 per cent in quasi money.

The sound fiscal policy pursued by the Sultanate, especially on the level and pattern of expenditure, continued to contribute substantially to an environment conducive to expansion of banking operations. The total balance-sheet of the commercial banks showed a 22 percent growth over the year, to RO 888 million. The banks benefited from the buoyant international money market rates, and profits of both local and foreign banks showed appreciable growth, from RO 12.3 million in 1981 to RO 15.8 million in 1982.

Interest Rates

Interest rates remained quite stable over the year. They were generally lower in the second half of 1982, compared to the corresponding period of 1981. The average quarterly rate on time deposits for 1982 was 9.38 per cent (9.41 per cent in 1981), while that on total lending dropped from 11.08 per cent to 10.95 per cent. Local banks generally paid higher interest rates than foreign banks.

The Central Bank, in its effort to ensure an efficient and smooth operation of the banking system, adopted several measures during the year. To maintain an orderly expansion in banking activities, CBO found it necessary to strengthen the base on which banks operated and a decree was issued to the commercial banks, requiring them to increase their minimum paid-in capital to RO 1 million each by the end of 1983.

With a view to avoiding undue exposure to foreign exchange risks, the banks were permitted to take position in foreign exchange only within 40 percent of their capital and reserve. Each licensed bank was also required to hold at least 10 percent of its lending portfolio in the form of bills discountable that would act as a useful source of liquidity for the bank.

The trade surplus dropped for the first time since 1978. The decline, of RO 241 million from 1981 to 1982, was brought about by the increase in imports of RO 146.8 million, coupled with the decline in exports of RO 94.2 million.

Services and private transfers registered a record net outflow of RO 331.8 million, as compared to RO 275.3 million in 1981. The increased net outflow reflected the pace of economic activity during the year when outward profit and worker remittances of contractors and other firms increased.

Inflow of foreign exchange, in the form of loans and transfers, went down considerably, from RO 105.6 million to RO 37.3 million in 1982 mainly due to a reduction in grant receipts. The overall balance for 1982 showed a surplus of RO 293.3 million which was RO 187.7 million less than that of the previous year. The terms of trade suffered by 3.5 percent in 1982 due to a larger decline in export prices especially of oil, than those of the import prices.

Prices

Prices at the consumer and wholesale levels remained quite stable throughout the year. The consumer price index for food, beverages and tobacco showed a slight increase of 1.1 percent on a year-end basis. Items that showed some increases included cigarettes and tobacco, beverages, cereals and milk products.

The price level of most other products, including fruits and vegetables, meat and eggs, tea, coffee and sugar, remained stable or showed some decreases. Evidence of the stability of prices over the year was also borne out by other sources. Rents, as well as prices of clothing and footwear, utilities, transport, consumer durables, and personal and medical care, remained almost unchanged throughout the year.

The import price index dropped by 6.7 per cent from the end of 1981 to the end of 1982. The decline was felt over most major commodity groups including machinery, fuel, consumer durables, textiles and footwear. The construction materials index, based on the cost to contractors of 16 major construction materials, also showed a decline of 10.3 per cent.

SAUDI ARABIA

Interior Minister Denies Iran's Hajj Allegations

LD271846 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] At-Ta'if 27 Jul (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of interior and chairman of the Hajj Higher Committee, issued a statement in which he explained and refuted the Iranian calumnies against the Kingdom concerning the Iranian pilgrims. Here is the text of the statement:

To explain and refute the false claims and accusations against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recently spread by the Iranian media citing Iranian officials, on the pretext that the Saudi security authorities have refused the Iranian requests concerning measures to guarantee the comfort of the Iranian pilgrims, and that this stance means canceling travel by the Iranian pilgrims:

In the face of the Iranian campaigns of doubt and deception which escalated in a defammatory and threatening manner before and after the statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, concerning the results of the meeting of the Iranian delegation to the Saudi officials responsible for pilgrimage affairs and which has continued up to today, the security authorities concerned in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have to announce the following facts:

First: It is proven and well known to all the peoples of the Islamic world that the Government of Saudi Arabia, to which God has given the honor of serving the two holy places, every year during the pilgrimage season, does its best and mobilizes all its abilities in all fields to serve the guests of the Ka'ba and those

who come to it from everywhere in the Islamic nation. It does its best to make them comfortable and dedicates all its services in order to facilitate their performance of the rites and to provide them with the health and security services from the time of their arrival in Saudi territory until their departure for their countries. Over the past decades, no Islamic country nor one of its citizens has ever complained to a Saudi authority or representative. On the contrary, the Saudi departments used to receive thousands of cables and letters after the pilgrimage season, all of them expressing the thanks and gratitude of the pilgrims for what the Kingdom does in this field. In spite of that, it does not wait for thanks for doing its Islamic and human duties. This was the situation with the Iranian pilgrims over the years, similar to all other honored pilgrims.

Secondly: Three years ago, the departments responsible for serving the pilgrims, unfortunately, began to realize that the behavior of some of the Iranian pilgrims started to deviate from the main purpose of performing the fifth pillar of Islam toward certain political, propaganda, and demagogic purposes which contradict the Islamic rules and contradict the substance of the holy verses of the Holy Book and what we heard from the Prophet. We read in the holy verse "for the hajj months are well known. If anyone undertakes that duty, let there be no obscenity, nor wickedness, nor wrangling in the hajj," and the Prophet says, "those who undertake the hajj and do not commit obscenities or wickedness will return as pure as the day there were born." But we find some of the Iranian pilgrims hiding hand weapons, knives, and propaganda publications and statements for Imam Khomeyni, which include direct attacks against the officials in Saudi Arabia, condemnation of its policies,and incitation to combat every Islamic or Arab country which does not approve of the attitudes of the Iranian revolution.

This is in addition to the strange practices of some Iranian pilgrims during their presence on Saudi territory during the pilgrimage season, such as:

1. Gatherings of tens and hundreds in the passages of the two holy places and delivering Iranian political and revolutionary speeches through loudspeakers, which disturbs those praying in the two holy places.

2. Cheering in noisy demonstrations in the streets of Mecca and Medina and the holy cites using words which contradict the word of unification, such as "Allah Akbar, Khomeyni Imam; Allah Akbar, Khomeyni Abhar."

3. Trying to enter the holy mosque carrying small firearms.The security authorities of the holy places have intercepted these weapons dozens of times.

In spite of all this, Saudi Arabia was anxious from the beginning to treat these Iranian practices with wisdom, patience, constructive words, and amicable understanding with the leaders of these gatherings and with the supervisors of the Iranian pilgrimage affairs, sometimes at the level of the responsible authorities, and other times at the level of representation between the two countries. That was to preserve Islamic ties and to stop anything that might disturb the existing good relations between the two countries.

This was in spite of the continuation of the campaigns attacking the Kingdom in the Iranian media and through the Friday speakers in the mosques, the last of which was the Tehran radio broadcast last night, Tuesday, 26 July, to the effect that Saudi Arabia agreed today to permit the Iranians to perform the rites of pilgrimage this year, but it still imposes some problems concerning supplying the pilgrims with food and accommodation. This is a lie and a calumny, as the Kingdom has never stopped the pilgrimage so as to permit it today.

It is very odd that the Iranian Government denies the Saudi Government the right to preserve its country's security during this critical period of the pilgrimage season, while the Iranian departments commit oppressive actions and massacres every day against their citizens in Iran on the pretext of preserving security.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, during the past 3 years, has put up with the Iranian practices and campaigns, hoping that the Iranian officials might understand the facts behind the events. But the harmful campaigns are still continuing and escalating, which reveals their hidden intentions behind these claims. We know and all the world knows what Iran is suffering: psychological, economic, and coalition crises as a result of its financial hardships, and for this reason it is trying to stop its pilgrims from going to the Ka'ba and makes up flimsy excuses against the Kingdom. Therefore, and as a result of what we have just explained to the Islamic world, the security authorities in Saudi Arabia would like to announce the position of their government towards the unfair Iranian campaigns with the following points:

A. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia welcomes the Iranian pilgrims within the limits on numbers dictated by the limited ability of the holy places to accommodate them. And that is until the completion of the current measures to increase the capacity to accommodate in the coming years.

B. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia asks all the guests of the Ka'ba to respect its security and administrative regulations and to commit themselves to following the Islamic rules which are specified by the holy laws, and to dedicate themselves completely to performing the rite of pilgrimage and nothing else.

C. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will not hesitate or think twice about taking measures against those who try to disturb security or do anything which contradicts Islamic rules. This is in order to preserve normality and to shoulder its responsibilities.

We ask God to make us see His way, to protect us from ourselves, protect our country from intrigues and conflicts, and to collect our word on the right path. He is the one who hears and answers.

PDRY

Committee Delegation Departs for San'a'

GF271816 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The delegation of the southern part in the committee of unity for foreign affairs and diplomatic and consular representation between the two parts of homeland left Aden for the northern

part of homeland today under the chairmanship of Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Ammayah, deputy foreign minister, to attend the first session of the committee for the current year, 1983.

ANA has learned that committee will follow up issues dealing with uncompleted tasks within the framework of unification work, strengthening cooperation between unification establishments, and forming the right foundations to establish unified ministries.

YAR

Algerian Prime Minister Departs San'a' 27 July

GF271316 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani left San'a' today following a 3-day visit. He held official talks with senior state and government officials.

Prime Minister Begins Official Talks in Romania

NC271528 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Bucharest, 27 Jul (MENA) — The official talks between the Egyptian and Romanian delegations began here this evening at the Foreign Ministry building.

The Egyptian and Romanian sides to the talks are headed by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu respectively. The talks were preceded by a 30-minute closed meeting between the Egyptian and Romanian prime ministers.

MENA has learned that next Monday, the day on which the visit will be concluded, the two sides will sign an agreement to enhance cooperation between the two countries in various fields, particularly in the economic and industrial areas. The agreement will include a complementary protocol for expanding the various channels of cooperation between the two countries in the information field.

Ash-Sharif Comments on Visit

NC271936 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Egyptian and Romanian delegations met in Bucharest today. The talks began with a closed meeting between Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu. Members of the Egyptian and Romanian delegations later joined the meeting.

Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, said the two sides discussed the developments in the Middle East situation. He added that the two sides' views were congruent regarding the need to shore up peace efforts in the area, and to incorporate all parties, including the PLO, in these efforts.

The minister of state for information said that the Egyptian and Romanian delegations stressed the need for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the foreign troops from Lebanon, and expressed their support for the Lebanese legitimacy and for preserving Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity.

Safwat ash-Sharif said that Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has affirmed the gravity of continuing to build the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the need to end Israel's violent practices in the area. He added that the Egyptian and Romanian sides discussed topics of cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, and information, as well as Romania's participation in the integration projects between Egypt and Sudan.

Bucharest Media Coverage

For Bucharest media coverage of the visit to Romania by Prime MinisterDr Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and accompanying delegation, see the Romania section of the 27 July East Europe *Daily Report and subsequent issues.*

Official Spokesman Denounces Hebron Events

NC271410 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Our radio correspondent has learned that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent an urgent message to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz today. In this message, Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed Egypt's stand on and Egypt's extreme annoyance at the development of events in the city of Hebron. 'Ali has demanded that the United States assume its responsibilities in light of its principal role in the Middle East peace process.

Our radio correspondent has also learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali has assigned the assistant foreign minister Ambassador Kamal Mansur to summoning the Israeli charge d'affaires in Cairo and to conveying Egypt's attitude toward the development of events in the city of Hebron.

In another development, the official Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that the reports received about the terrorist attack that has been launched against the students of the Hebron Islamic University greatly annoy Egypt. This disgraceful action confirms the extent of the deterioration of the Palestinians' current living conditions as well as the extent of the danger to which they are being exposed.

The spokesman said: Egypt vehemently denounces this criminal action. Moreover, Egypt holds the view that the Israeli government bears the main responsibility for ensuring the security and safety of the Palestinians on the West Bank and in the Gaza sector. Furthermore, Egypt demands that the necessary measures be taken immediately to prevent the recurrence of such actions, to apprehend the perpetrators of this incident, and to put them on trial.

The spokesman added that the Israeli practices on the West Bank and in the Gaza sector — particularly the settlement policy, the deposing of the mayors and the other Palestinian officials, and Israel's practices against the Arab residents — heighten tension in the area and create an atmosphere that tends to increase the waves of violence and strife, and to place more obstacles in the way of the possibilities for achieving a comprehensive and just peace.

'Ali Instructs UN Envoy

NC271426 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 27 Jul (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today commissioned Ambassador Jamal Mansur with summoning the Israeli charge d'affaires in Cairo in order to convey to him Egypt's stand on and denunciation of the terrorist attack on the students of the Hebron University, and to stressing the need for Israel to be responsible for the safety and security of the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

In another development, Kamal Hasan 'Ali asked Egypt's UN Permanent Representative Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq to

participate in the name of Egypt in any meetings that the UN Security Council might hold to discuss the situation in Hebron, and to acquaint the Council's member-states with Egypt's position in this regard.

Commentary Blames Israel

NC271515 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jul 83

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad Commentary: "Violence Against the Palestinians in the West Bank — Whose Responsibility?"]

[Text] No doubt the Israeli Government is to some extent responsible for the wave of bloody violence that is sweeping some West Bank towns, particularly Hebron. Those in the Israeli Government ranks who deny this responsibility are reminded of the government's collusion with the settlers and its cover-up of their crimes from the Justice Ministry's investigation committee.

However, the Israeli Government's responsibility for this violence, in our opinion, goes beyond merely colluding with the perpetrators and covering up their crimes. The terms collusion and cover-up, in the logic of law, exonerate the Israeli government from being the actual perpetrator of these events. But under the circumtances, the Israeli Government is fully responsible both for what has taken place and for being biased in implementing the law after the crime. Furthermore, the Israeli Government's responsibility for the settlers' crimes emanates from the government's settlement policy.

When the government of a country decides to settle its citizens in land and houses belonging to others, it is usurping a right which those property owners expect to be defended. Since the Israeli Government expects the Palestinian to defend his right even by means of throwing stones, it has allowed the Jewish settler to carry arms and to join the armed militia in a country which has its own army and police corps. The matter did not stop at this; Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens has publicly affirmed that the settlers are entitled to carry arms, thus giving the green light to the settlers to exercise the utmost violence against the Arab citizens, who are defending their right of existence. Hence, the Jewish settlers' attack yesterday on the students of the Hebron Islamic University is only a link in a long chain, out of which new links of bloody violence will surface against the Palestinians in the occupied territories. Hence, the calls for the peaceful Palestinian-Jewish coexistence, which is being advocated by Israel, are being wrecked by the actions of the Israeli Government.

What is more serious is that all that is taking place in the West Bank towns does not leave any hope for the possibility of setting up any kind of political dialogue to resolve the crisis that would attain the legitimate objectives of all the disputing sides. What is taking place in the West Bank towns does not leave any confidence in the credibility of any political move to settle the crisis by peaceful means. It exposes the entire region to changes bound to cause a conflagration in the area that will benefit one side to the detriment of the other.

AL-AHALI Condemns U.S. Policy on Settlements

PM271312 Cairo Al-Ahali in Arabic 20 Jul 83 p 2

[Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad "Our Foreign Policy" column: "This Disgraceful U.S. Stand"]

[Excerpts] The Security Council has failed to issue a statement regarding the state of tension in the West Bank following the violent incidents that took place in Hebron a few days ago because of the U.S. delegate's objection to a phrase in the statement which says that the Israeli settlements in the West Bank are illegal.

In defending his government's viewpoint, the U.S. delegate said the settlements could be provocative and their establishment could be unwise politically but they are certainly not illegal.

Recently Reagan himself made similar statements but it was said that they were intended for local consumption and in order to win the Jewish vote in the next presidential election. They were not official statements by Reagan as the incumbent U.S. President.

It should be recalled that former President Jimmy Carter — the full partner in the Camp David accords — made several statements asserting, contrary to Reagan's statements, that the settlements are illegal and should be removed.

Indeed Reagan himself in the past adopted stands indicating that the present administration's policy is no different from that of the previous one in this regard. What is known as "Reagan's initiative" includes an offer to freeze the Jewish settlements in the West Bank until agreement is reached for solving the Palestinian problem in cooperation with Jordan. Begin's government rejected this initiative outright and even looked at it as an incentive to intensify the building of settlements even in Arab populated areas such as Hebron.

Therefore, the seriousness of the U.S. delegate's stand at the Security Council does not lie merely in the fact that he removed every ambiguity about his government's attitude toward the settlements and made it clear that lending legitimacy to the settlements is not just an "election" posture, but that it has become an official U.S. attitude. What is particularly serious is the fact that the U.S. Administration is lending legitimacy to the settlements at a time when Israel is implementing a plan to kill once and for all any material possibility for the establishment of a Palestinian entity in the future.

Legalizing the settlements means giving Israel the right of settlement and, consequently, of imposing its sovereignty on the entire West Bank, which is a blatant violation of Resolution 242 and a retraction on and withdrawal of Reagan's initiative. Indeed it is a radical change in the U.S. attitude and an expression of its submission to Israel's most audacious and aggressive policies. What is unfortunate indeed is that our so-called national press did not comment with one single word on this change in the U.S. attitude and was content with reporting the news of Egypt's protest against Israel's policy in Hebron. Is one to understand from this that Egyptian diplomacy sees no harm in this disgraceful U.S. stand?

AL-AHALI Reports on Egyptian-Israeli Trade

PM271258 Cairo Al-Ahali in Arabic 20 Jul 83 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Drop in Egyptian Exports to Israel"]

[Text] Egyptian exports to Israel last year dropped by 74 million pounds compared with the previous year (1981).

Statistics by the Central Mobilization and Statistics Department show that total Egyptian exports to Israel in 1982 totaled 310,251,000 pounds while in 1981 they were 384,475,000 pounds. The drop is due to the shortfall in Egyptian oil exports to Israel during last year, which totaled 310,022,000 pounds as against 384,436,000 pounds in 1981.

251,000 pounds [figure as published] last year and 39,000 the previous year.

On the other hand Egypt's imports from Israel in 1982 totaled 48,289,000 pounds.

Liberal Socialist Party Leader Interviewed

PM271328 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 23-29 Jul 83 pp 29-32

[Interview with Liberal Socialist Party Leader Mustafa Kamil Murad in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Liberal Socialist Party [LSP] had supported Camp David. Does it still support Camp David?

Answer: Yes, all the way.

Question: Why all the way?

Answer: Because it is the only possible course. Politics is an art of the possible, not the impossible. The art of the impossible is revolution. A good politician is one who can promote a solution on the basis of the prevailing conditions and avoid war. Anwar as-Sadat managed to do that. He managed to get the Jews out of Sinai without war or without grave losses.

Question: What is the LSP's position on the normalization of relations with Israel?

Answer: That, in our opinion, depends on the extent of Israel's implementation of all the provisions of the Camp David agreement, especially the part on autonomy for the Palestinian people which is supported by no less than one-third of the Israeli people. I went there [to Israel] twice — once with As-Sadat and once in 1980 as member of the Egyptian parliamentary delegation. If they are willing to implement the remaining part of the agreement and recognize the PLO as leader of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza, then relations will be normalized. The degree of normalization will depend on the extent to which the second part of the Camp David agreement is implemented. This has been our opinion from the very beginning.

Question: Do you believe that the Egyptian people are psychologically ready for a normalization of relations with Israel?

Answer: Yes, but if they see Israel procrastinating one way or another in the implementation of the Camp David agreement, they will not accept it. Pressure must be put on the United States and the rest of the world, free or otherwise, to pressure Israel in every possible way so that war may be avoided.

Question: Do you have an opinion on the Tabah issue?

Answer: Yes, it is our land and our right and we must have it back but we believe that this should be done by political means, not war.

Question: What are your views on the establishment of relations with the Soviet Union?

Answer: We have been advocating that since the days of As-Sadat. The Soviet Union is the second strongest state in the world. It has its own strategy which we cannot change, but we can serve our own interests through it. There is no reason why we should not also have good relations with the United States and the West and why we should not benefit from them in bringing pressure to bear on Israel. We are a state which believes in positive neutrality.

Question: Another point: The opposition is calling for change. What do you mean by change?

Answr: We believe that the government is weak. Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din's government is weak and its achievements are limited. The people believe that the problems remain unsolved. Husni Mubarak has been very successful in his foreign policy but the government inside is weak. I have said that we are parties which should work within a certain framework, that while we [party leaders] should not join the government a cabinet should be formed from all the parties and we all should put our heads together to get Egypt out of this crisis, but there was no response. We believe that our presence as veteran politicians strengthens the government. We do not want to be ministers. A ministry represents a responsibility to the honest and pure people. It is not a personal gain. We want use to be made of the political experience outside the NDP.

question: But the NDP is the majority party?

Answer: Who says so?

Question: The election results.

Answer: The elections were not sound. We advocate elections on basis of personal cards. We also urge abolition of the Ethics Court and the post of socialist prosecutor and believe that the powers of the president of the republic should be limited. Stability is more likely to be achieved that way in our opinion.

Briefs

New Ambassador to Zaire — Cairo, 27 July (MENA) — The Government of Zaire has approved the nomination of Dr Mustafa Fahmi as the new Egyptian ambassador to Zaire. [Excerpt] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Jul 83 NC]

Further Reportage on Fighting in Hajj 'Umran

Communique No 1,165

JN271717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,165 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 July 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

By continuing their aggression against great Iraq and by showing their expansionist intentions, the ruling criminals in Iran, headed by charlatan Khomeyni, are choosing for their people and forces certain death and eternal humiliation. Their future attempts against Iraq will reap failure and frustration. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Using various weapons, our forward units opened fire on enemy positions and troop assembly points in front of our positions in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the front, inflicting on the enemy forces further losses in men and equipment. During a battle in another area of the same sector yesterday the enemy suffered 300 dead, many more wounded, and a number of tanks, armored personnel carriers, and vehicles destroyed, in addition to the losses mentioned in our communique No 1,164 issued last night. Yesterday more Iranians escaping the tryanny and oppression of Khomeyni's regime sought refuge with our forces in another area of the northern sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Today our capable helicopters attacked enemy positions, concentrations, and units in front of our forward units in the Hajj 'Umran area scoring direct, effective hits and inflicting on the enemy vehicles, positions, and troop assembly points further losses. All our helicopters returned safely and triumphantly to their bases.

3. Sighting an enemy concentration in front of them in the central sector of the front, our forward units opened fire killing four, wounding others, and destroying two vehicles — one of which was laden with hardware, one tubular launcher, and seven stockpiles of hardware.

4. Four were killed and one stockpile of hardware was destroyed in the area east of Basra.

5. One tubular launcher and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

6. The spiteful Iranian enemy today shelled the township of Zurbatiyah and its environs damaging a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 July 1983

KRP Statement on Offensive

JN271747 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Kurdish Revolutionary Party [KRP] has affirmed that our brave Armed Forces, which have been waging fierce battles against the rancorous Iranian regime's aggression for the past 3 years, will be able to defeat all barbaric invasions and all aggressive, fascist ideas and will defeat the dreams of charlatan Khomeyni.

In a statement today on the Iranian attack against the Hajj 'Umran area, the KRP says that the progressive, national, and patriotic forces within the National Progressive Front, led by President Saddam Husayn, are today standing as one man in defense of the achievements and gains of the 17-30 July revolution and are fiercely safeguarding one of its most important achievements, namely, autonomy in Kurdistan.

The statement says: The recent Iranian attack against the Hajj 'Umran area is aimed at extinguishing the revolutionary light in Iraqi Kurdistan and wiping out the Kurdish liberation movement in the region.

Kurds Volunteer To Fight

JN271158 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Our Kurdish people rushed to carry arms and support our valiant Armed Forces' confrontation of the criminal Iranian regime's aggression and attempt to penetrate our international border in the northern sector.

Kurdish citizens reported to the Ba'th Party Headquarters and to the military and administrative commands in the region in order to participate in Saddam's glorious Al-Qadisiyah battle out of love for the homeland and for the defense of its sovereignty.

Baghdad on Iranian Offensives

JN271100 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[News analysis]

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jul (INA) — The Iranian leadership has again failed in its recent attempt to disrupt Iraqi defensive positions in the northern sector. This failure cost it additional human losses.

Despite the difficulty in counting the human and materiel losses due to the mountainous nature of the area and the fact that dead Iranian troops are scattered over plateaus, mountain peaks, slopes, and valleys, the Iraqi forces managed, after combing through some of the fighting areas, to count over 3,000 bodies, including wounded soldiers who have been evacuated to the rear

as well as those who were captured. These figures are continuously increasing as the [Iraqi] siege operations continue.

Yesterday's attempt by the attacking Iranian forces to occupy one of the important mountain peaks in the Hajj 'Umran area — an attempt made with additional forces and large reinforcements since early morning — was crushed by noon. Iraqi forces regained that important peak from the Iranian forces and annihiliated an entire regiment of revolution guards along with its commander in a lightning offensive launched by our fighters.

After the series of defeats sustained by Iran in the northern sector, the Iraqi leadership drew attention to the fact that according to the latest information, the Iranians have launched repeated abortive attacks against the I Army Corps sector with the aim of distracting the Iraqi Army so that they could then launch an attack — an attack which is imminent — against the II Army Corps sector. Thus, the Iraqi leadership has immediately affirmed that the Iranian offensive in the northern sector was only a silly trick. It also warns those in Iran who can still reason that the strong fire which had previously burned their henchmen in all operational sectors, will burn the unlucky ones and the rotten mentalities of those preparing for an attack against the II Army Corps sector.

It is well known that before any anticipated Iranian offensive, the Iraqi leadership warns the Iranian forces of the grave consequences of any attempt to cross Iraq's international border. Many of these forces, who have the chance of hearing this warning or who appeal to reason, take to their heels and run with stunning speed toward the Iraqi units to spare their lives as soon as the offensive begins. However, those who lose their minds and fall victim to delusions are always the losers in the crematorium of the grinding war.

There is no doubt at all that the results of the battles that took place on all fronts, whether on level or wasted land, mountains or waterways, in severe cold, heat, or in the spring, were in favor of the Iraqi fighters. The Iranian leadership knows all these facts but ignores them in its rush after the game of death.

Commentary Urges Overthrow of Iranian Regime

GF271430 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the scenario of the mullahs recalls the story about the sheep and the wolf. This is due to the fact that everyone everywhere refers to Khomeyni as a cannibal. Khomeyni is shedding the blood of youths for the sake of the existence of his blood-dripping regime. And, deriving pleasure from this, he is laughing out loud. The peoples of Iran on the other hand, are suffering at the hands of such satans. The peoples of Iran are witness to their loved ones being stained with blood.

The mullahs have brought fire on Iran. They have brought disaster upon the peoples of Iran. They have turned Iran into such a bloodbath that not even the disaster brought upon the Iranian people by the the men of Genghis Khan and the Mongols can compare. By pulling down the homes of the peoples of Iran and through corruption, agitation, and blood they wish to impose themselves on the peoples of Iran.

However, religious and Muslim Iranians cannot remain (?inactive) in the face of such treachery and crime. It is the historic duty of every religious and freedom-loving Iranian to remove from Iran the school of mullahs — which is (?a threat) not only to Iran, but to the whole of progressive humanity — and to lift Iran to the contemporary level of humanity by crushing this group of parasites.

Government Blames Israel for Hebron Incident

Message to UN

JN271818 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Jordan's representative to the United Nations has sent a message to the UN Security Council in which he accused the Israeli authorities of planning the criminal attack against the Islamic University in Hebron. In his message, the Jordanian representative said that these authorities prepare plans for such attacks and the Israeli settlers carry them out. He referred to the incident where Hebron's central market was set on fire by the Israeli settlers early this month. He added that this incident had also been planned by the Israeli Government.

Jordan's representative said that he believes that these preplanned attacks are part of an Israeli plan to annex the occupied Arab territories after emptying them of their inhabitants.

Religious Affairs Ministry Denunciation

JN271943 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Holy Places has denounced the crime carried out by the Israeli establishment against the professors and students of the Islamic University in Hebron.

In a statement today, the ministry said that this crime is part of the plan which seeks to terrorize the Arab inhabitants to have them emigrate or accept the humiliating situation of being a submissive minority.

The ministry called on the Arab and Islamic countries to bury their differences and organize their ranks to besiege the occupation and work for liberating the usurped homeland.

Demonstrations, Strikes in West Bank Reported

JN271252 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Violent demonstrations and strikes prevailed in the occupied West Bank towns and villages today in protest against the crime that the Zionist settlers perpetrated yesterday against the students of the Hebron Islamic University, during which 3 Arab students were martyred and 40 others wounded.

A general strike was observed in Jerusalem, Nabulus, Ramallah, and Qalqilyah. Shops closed down and employees abstained from going to their jobs. The occupation soldiers opened shops in Ramallah by force. Meanwhile, a curfew is still imposed on the Nabulus central market, Halhul, and the Ad-Duhayshah, Al-'Arrub, and Balatah camps, in addition to Hebron, which is being besieged by hundreds of Israeli soldiers who were transported by air yesterday in order to complete the terrorist scheme against the Arab citizens — a scheme which the occupation authorities back and participated in planning.

The Arab citizens today also demonstrated in front of the Red Cross building in occupied Jerusalem. A similar demonstration was staged in Bi'r Zayt University, during which the students set tires on fire and set up roadblocks. Hundreds of them shouted slogans against the Zionist presence in the occupied West Bank. Clashes took place today between university students and Jewish settlers and four students were wounded.

Acting Hebron Mayor Mustafa an-Natshah, who was deposed by the occupation authorities, called for disarming the Jewish settlers in the West Bank. He said that the recent Hebron events prove that there can be no coexistence between Arabs and Jews.

Commentary Condemns Begin for Hebron Events

JN271946 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Israeli officials, headed by Menahem Begin, the planner and implementer of terrorism, have tried to absolve themselves of the responsibility for the crime which was committed by the deviates among Begin's followers in Hebron university yesterday. Begin tried to delude local and world public opinion by saying that he condemns such acts and promised to apprehend the perpetrators. The same expressions were repeated by his interior minister and other members of his government, which has planned and implemented all the sanguinary terrorist operations in the occupied Arab territories, Lebanon, and other parts of the world. The Israeli authorities continue to commit crimes and massacres against Arab citizens directly or through their henchmen, and try at the same time to maintain an image unblemished before the world public and in international forums.

Since the occupation, the terrorist settlers have been carrying out continuous aggressions against Arab citizens, yet not a single terrorist has been detained, not a single house in any settlement has been demolished because its owner has opened fire on defenseless Arab citizens, and not a singler criminal has been exiled because he killed a nun in a monastery or worshippers in a mosque.

The attempt to absorb the anger by condemning the crime will not convince anyone inside or outside the occupied territory. If the terrorists and criminals must be apprehended, then Begin and his government, the planners and implementers of terrorism, must be apprehended first.

Nazi tactics are known to our kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories, because they have dealt with them since the arrival of the first Jewish settler in Palestine some 100 years ago. They have foiled all plans based on Begin's tactics from the days of Dayr Yasin, Qibyah, and the King David Hotel, and they are still steadfast on their land, deepening their roots in Palestinian soil and deriving strength from their legendary steadfastness so as to continue the course of struggle and continuous resistance. This is because they believe that their Arab entity and existence are stronger and firmer than all the settlement and deportation plans, that their belief in the justice of their cause will overcome all the

treachery and cunning which the Israeli leaders have learned in the ghettos, and that the love for their land is stronger than the tactics of violence, which Begin and his henchmen have copied from the Nazis.

It remains to be said that the Palestinian people, who have offered thousands of martyrs in their bitter struggle against Zionism and in their heroic resistance to the settlements, cannot be intimidated by the falling of four martyrs yesterday in Hebron and Nabulus. The blood of these righteous martyrs will rekindle the brand of steadfastness and heroic resistance until victory dawns.

Crown Prince Returns From West Europe 27 July
JN271900 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan returned to the homeland this evening at the end of an official visit to Belgium at the invitation of the Belgian Government and the European Cooperation Council. His highness also visited Switzerland where he took part in the declaration of the independent committee for a new humanitarian world system in Geneva in his capacity as chairman of the permanent independent committee.

His highness Crown Prince Hasan also paid a private visit to the United Kingdom during which he met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was welcomed at the airport by the prime minister, the chief of the Hashemite court, the court minister, the chief chamberlain, the chief justice, the interior minister, and state officials.

Syrian Army Reportedly Withdraws From Tripoli

NC281256 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1220 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has received information from Tripoli that the Syrian Army has suddenly withdrawn from all quarters of the city and its vicinity and handed over its positions to the Islamic Unification Movement group led by Shaykh Sha'ban and certain leftist parties. The information adds that the Syrians and their supporters have grouped outside Tripoli, particularly between Majdalayya and Al-Qubbah. Although no explanation was given for this measure, our security correspondent in the north says Tripoli circles are apprehensive about this step, because they are afraid that this evacuation may be a preparation for striking at the city or kindling new security incidents there. In addition, the Tripoli people are apprehensive, because the Syrian forces have positioned new artillery emplacements on the hills overlooking the city.

The positions which the Syrians have left are the Az-zahiriyah, At-Tall, Abu Samra, and the citadel. Reports say that the 24 October Movement immediately took control of the Tripoli citadel. It has been noticed that armed men are setting up barricades and barriers in the quarters of 'Ardat, Ra'shin, and Majdalayya, which were contact lines during the 2-year war.

Government Leaders Brief Cabinet on U.S. Visit

NC271522 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Dispatch from the Republican Palace by correspondent Joe Sa'adah — recorded]

[Excerpts] The Cabinet ended its meeting at 1430 today; the meeting lasted 2 and 1/2 hours. His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil put the Cabinet in the picture about his visit to the United States. He affirmed that the visit emphasized U.S. determination to fulfill the commitment President Reagan's administration made concerning the termination of all occupation in Lebanon and the translation of this commitment into practical steps that will be put into effect in the coming days. This visit also underlined President Reagan's assurance of keeping the Lebanese issue at the forefront of U.S. concerns.

His excellency dwelt on some of the incidents which took place during his absence from Lebanon. He welcomed any constructive opposition within the national, democratic, and constitutional framework of Lebanon. He also stressed that the opportunity is available for any opposition to raise its views in a sound, free, democratic, and patriotic manner.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan lauded the basic role and the personal effect which his excellency the president had at the talks with the U.S. officials and in the meetings with Lebanese expatriates. He affirmed the continuation of U.S. support for Lebanon, despite the presence of other parties in the arena who have conflicting interests. The United States still maintains that it is essential to ensure the joint goals announced by Presidents al-Jumayyil and Reagan.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan also welcomed constructive opposition, because it is the true challenge that will maintain the Lebanese Government's contribution within a framework of national action. A distinction must be made between an opposition to the homeland, which is rejected, and a political opposition within a sound national context. Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his thanks to the information media for the efforts they exerted in covering the presidential trip.

Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim also briefed the Cabinet on the details of the talks and meetings which were held, and on the important and positive results of the visit.

McFarlane's Mission, Troop Withdrawals Reviewed

NC271434 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Diplomatic sources expect Robert McFarlane, the new U.S. presidential envoy, and his aide Richard Fairbanks to begin their tour of the area tomorrow or the day after in order to hold talks on ensuring the foreign forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. However, the final date of their arrival in the area is linked with the outcome of the current U.S.-Israeli talks in Washington.

These sources say that McFarlane will carry several ideas and proposals with him to discuss with officials in Israel and Syria. These ideas had been discussed between the Lebanese and the U.S. sides in Washington. They are mostly positive, and are ideas that stem from new diplomatic and negotiation stands.

The diplomatic source say that Lebanese public opinion should not expect immediate miracles, because the Lebanese question is very complicated. At the same time, there is a very strong U.S. thrust accompanied by practical ideas that must be tested. What is important, however, is to start a political dialogue between the parties concerned.

The sources hope that a stage for beginning a political dialogue will be reached; nobody knows when this will be. The diplomatic sources declined to give further details about McFarlane's new mission, and said that U.S. officials are now conferring with Israeli Ministers Arens and Shamir on the question of partial withdrawals so that these do not become a fait accompli and are not imposed on Lebanon, because they have an adverse political meaning.

The sources add that should such partial withdrawals take place, the Americans will ask the Israelis that they be within a complete withdrawal schedule.

Concerning the Army's deployment in the mountain, the sources pointed out that if a partial Israeli withdrawal takes place within the expected complete withdrawals plan, the Army and the multinational force will be sent to the mountain. The government will do everything possible with all the parties concerned and in any area to facilitate the Army's entry. The government hopes that all matters will be smooth, and that no party will obstruct this because the question is a fateful one.

Israel Closes Phalangist Offices in South

NC280626 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Church bells rang in southern Lebanon today in support of the Lebanese Forces. A call was made yesterday for a general strike today in the Christian villages in the districts of Sidon, Jazzin, Az-Zahrani, and An-Nabatiyah in protest against the Israeli decision to close a number of Phalangist and Lebanese Forces offices and centers in some villages, especially in Maghdushah where there is a clinic, a Phalangist office, a social services center, and the Southern Sarba Barracks.

It was learned that [Phalange] Party officials have decided to allow students to sit for their official examinations today despite the strike.

Phalangists Given 24 Hours

NC280653 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Church bells rang this morning in the districts of Az-Zahrani, Jazzin, An-Nabatiyah, and Sidon in support of the Lebanese Forces and the maintenance of these forces' barracks in these areas. Influential leaders in these area have called for a strike today.

The Israeli forces have set a time limit of 24 hours for the handover [litaslim] of some of these Phalangist barracks and centers in these areas.

Israeli ultimatums have also been issued to the Army barracks beyond Al-'Awwali river.

Protest Demonstrations Staged

NC281059 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] At approximately 1115 peaceful demonstrations were staged in Sidon, Jazzin, Maghdushah, Sarba, and An-Nabatiyah in support of the Lebanese Forces. The demonstrators asked the Israeli forces to revoke the decision to close the Lebanese Forces' barracks and centers.

According to the latest reports, more demonstrations have been staged in other towns and villages. The Israeli forces have threatened to disperse these peaceful demonstrations by force.

Franjiyah Comments on National Salvation Front

NC271038 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0725 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpts] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah held his weekly press conference yesterday during which he spoke about the current developments in Lebanon, especially the birth of the National Salvation Front.

President Franjiyah said: The birth of the National Salvation Front was announced this week. Briefly, this front was born for the sake of working with all means to reject the agreement imposed on us by Israel and the United States, announcing once and for all that Lebanon — its government and people — is affiliated with its Arab brothers and with no one else, and finally declaring that the correct Lebanese policy which has proved it benefits the homeland is the one which avoids all alliances outside the Arab League. Naturally, to attain these objectives, the front must first of all fight the agents of Israel and fight one-party rule. These are the aims of the front, and God willing, we will achieve them.

President Franjiyah added: The reaction to the front's birth came from many sides, including favorable reaction from the Arab world and beyond and unfavorable reaction mainly from a group which is an agent of Israel. All the reaction that we have heard does not equal the spontaneous reaction from the head of state on non-Lebanese soil. This reaction was manifested in a heartfelt broad smile [words indistinct]. This smile was followed by the head of state declaring at international forums that 99 percent of the Lebanese people support the policy of the current regime, a regime which has mortgaged itself to the enemy and which works to impose a one-party rule. The current regime forgets that this policy makes the people weep rather than laugh and that history has proved the adage that he who laughs on Friday will weep on Sunday. Thus, until Sunday, God willing.

There is an internationally recognized fact that U.S. hostility is dangerous while its friendship is deadly. Reagan has declared U.S. friendship in one of his speeches. He said he was committed to achieve pullouts, support the government, and guarantee Israel's borders. On this occasion, wait for my question . What borders of Israel does he guarantee? I wish he would define for us these borders. Perhaps we could save for him his guarantees.

As for the 99 percent about which the head of state has spoken, we are not astonished by this figure in view of his humbleness. If he were not so humble, he would have emulated Jesus Christ, who out of 12 disciples found one who did not support him. We wish the very humble president would made an arithmetical calculation and say 1/12 of the Lebanese people support this regime. We say this while forgetting what the Lebanese people expressed on 6 June or 16 July.

President Franjiyah continued: This week also, a farce occurred, as if we still need farces. The newspaper *Al-Anba'* was referred to court. A bigger farce was the attempt to refer Walid Junblatt to trial on charges of murder and sabotage. Is there a bigger farce and bigger proof that the officials are living in a province of China, because if they were truly officials, truly living on Lebanese soil, and truly claimed all Lebanese are equals, they would have tried the perpetrators of the treacherous massacres in which hundreds of children, women, and men were killed. However, how can we believe in justice when justice is only applied against the foes?

The following dialogue then took place between President Sulayman Franjiyah and the journalists:

Question: Your Excellency, following the president's stands on the declaration of the birth of the Salvation Front, will you

continue democratic opposition, or will the opposition take another form?

Answer: This front will be democratic and will only be democratic as long as Lebanon lives in democracy. However, if the regime's method of action changes, only God knows the future.

Question: Will the National Salvation Front continue to use democratic means to achieve its goals?

Answer: In all the democratic nations of the world there is a government and an opposition. We repeat that as long as the regime is not a one-party regime, our opposition will be democratic.

Question: In your capacity as a main pillar in the National Salvation Front, what kind of support do you expect from sister Syria to this front?

Answer: Sister Syria — in the past, now, and in the future — is only asked to give political support and nothing else. Fortunately, this front has not been accustomed to ask anything from anyone, except political, moral, and information support. Sister Syria can provide such support, and we hope that our Arab brothers will not be less generous than sister Syria.

Question: The appointment of McFarlane to succeed Habib — is it in your view a U.S. admission of the failure of its previous policy and of the need to pursue a new policy?

Answer: On this occasion, I express my unusual thanks to Mr Reagan, who has releieved us of this unbeloved man who came to us claiming he is of Lebanese origin. As I know him and as he behaved toward the Lebanese interest, he cannot have any Lebanese blood. He has gone and will not return, God willing.

As to whether he was missed because of his failure to change U.S. policy on Lebanon, this is something I cannot answer before the new envoy arrives and before the policy directions he receives from Reagan become known. I hope there will be no lies and no pressure on the Lebanese officials.

Franjiyah Interviewed on Al-Jumayyil's U.S. Tour

NC280935 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0725 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Former President Sulayman Franjiyah's interview with Lebanese newspaper *Ash-Sharq* conducted on 26 July and published in 28 July edition; place of interview not given read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Excellency, in your opinion, what is the effect of Lebanese expatriates on U.S. elections?

Answer: I mention to you an incident which I experienced in 1976, when I was still in office. I sent a message to these expatriates who were going to hold a conference. I told them to follow the example of the Israelis. The expatriates adopted a common stand and said they would vote for the candidate who would promise to solve the Lebanese issue. The message was conveyed by Charles Malik, who returned with a written pledge signed by Carter saying: In the event I win the elections, I pledge to help Lebanon to extricate itself from its crisis. The letter is still kept in the Al-Kaslik library, and I have a copy of it. Carter was elected, but his action was the opposite of what he had pledged, because the Lebanese community does not have enough experience to keep pressing a person to fulfil his promise.

Question: Your Excellency, what is your view of President al-Jumayyil's tour, which looked like an election tour in favor of President Reagan?

Answer: In my view, this tour was a kind of comedy, whether on the part of Reagan, who has an election interest, or on the part of Reagan's colleague and guest, who has an interest to prove to the Lebanese expatriates that all is well in Lebanon now. The outcome of the visit was just a personal benefit, either for the former or for the latter.

Question: The National Salvation Front has raised the slogan of democratic opposition. However, it appears that the regime is still dealing negatively with it. What is your attitude toward this?

Answer: The Salvation Front has been established on democratic bases to draw the attention of the officials to their abnormal actions. In all the democratic countries officials usually do not ignore the opposition, be it a salvation front, a labor party or a socialist party. The plan we have adopted is to be democratic in a country whose system is democratic. But if the officials in this country choose to ignore democracy, we popular officials have the right to tell them to start with themselves. We have the right to apply the proverb which says: As you see me, I see you. If there is going to be democracy, we are for it; if there is going to be no democracy, we welcome it.

Israeli Patrol Attacked in 'Alayh Area

NC271429 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] At noon today, Lebanese National Resistance fighters attacked a Zionist patrol on the road between 'Aynab and Qabr Shmun in the 'Alayh District with rockets and automatic weapons. Several casualties were inflicted on the patrol members. Eyewitnesses said that an Israeli tracked vehicle and a jeep, which were the targets of the attack, received direct hits and a number of soldiers were killed and wounded.

The occupation forces immediately sealed off the area, and began combing it to search for the perpetrators. Five enemy tanks took part in the combing operation. The reports said that the occupation forces set fire to forests and groves in 'Aynab and Qabr Shmun, and fired haphazardly at the two villages.

Syrian Cannons, Foreign Troops Arrive al-Biqa'

NC271548 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpts] According to reports received by the Voice of Lebanon, the Syrian forces have brought 30 130-mm cannons into the

Al-Biqa' area. The reports add that 15 Soviet experts supervised the installation of the guns, accompanied by a Syrian military police force.

Volunteers from Somalia and Sudan, estimated at 200 men, have entered the Al-Biqa' from Syria. They are supplied with about 20 tanks and 30 cannons. They are now positioned in the Al-Hirawi Building.

The intensity of the clashes in the Al-Biqa' has subsided after 15 Palestinians were killed in Kafr Zabad. Intermittent clashes took place in the Al-Litani Bridge area, near 'Abbud Farms, at 1600 today.

Press on Reagan Statements on Withdrawals
NC280745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "Reagan's Two Battles," *An-Nahar* comments editorially on President Reagan's statements and says: Lebanon's wagering on the United States has turned into political and military dependence on it. President Reagan's statements and those by President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan on the U.S. commitment to the Lebanese question, particularly toward Israel and Syria, suggest the existence of a U.S. written pledge to ensure the withdrawals from Lebanon, to ensure its integrity, and to ensure the consolidation and legitimacy of its central government.

There are people in Lebanese Government circles who would like to say that should there be a deal between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, it should be one in which the United States gives up the questions of Poland and Afghanistan in return for the Soviets giving up Lebanon and Nicaragua.

The paper adds: Nevertheless, the United States is still in the stage of incitement. President Reagan has linked the progress of a solution in Lebanon to two matters, namely adjusting the Israeli redeployment to become a phase of a complete pullout and using this to achieve progress in contacts with Syria.

An-Nahar concludes: If the U.S. President succeeds in handling the question of redeployment with Shamir and Arens, McFarlane will be in a stronger position to talk to Syria. However, if his efforts fail and Lebanon's political and security situation becomes complex, the U.S. envoy's mission will be more difficult, and talk about partition will increase.

Al-Anwar says the new thing in President Reagan's news conference a few days after meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil is not the talk about the danger of the ugly and dreadful partition nor about those responsible for it. It is the admission that partition is the result of a foreign occupation and not a result of domestic differences. This means that the Lebanon war will not end in partition and in the Israeli forces stationing in the south and the Syrians in the north and in Al-Biqa'. A solution does not stop at the new imposed borders and in face of the crisis. Moreover, the danger of partitition will go beyond Lebanon to the area. The U.S. President recalls that the Lebanese people have the right to self-determination and to resort to various means to liberate and to unite their country. Maybe he was indirectly suggesting that the United States will help Lebanon in its efforts to change the fait accompli.

The paper believes that it is not yet the time for this phase. The Reagan administration is maintaining its old strategy, and it still hopes, as the White House master says, that the Israelis will consider the partial withdrawal as a step toward a comprehensive pullout and that the gradual Israeli withdrawal will be an instrument to break the Syrian barrier and to convince Damascus to fulfill its promise to withdraw. The U.S. Administration still believes that there is a strong opportunity for a dialogue with Syria and that a dialogue can lead to negotiations which in turn will lead to success.

Unknown Gunmen Threaten Israeli Fish Traders
NC280858 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Unknown gunmen this morning blew up and set fire to a vehicle transporting Israeli fish. They threatened to kill its owners if they continue to trade in Israeli fish.

At about 0500 today, while traders were selling fish in the Al-Jisr Burj Abi Haydar area, masked gunmen appeared and surrounded a red Datsun pickup carrying Israeli fish. After asking its owner to step out, the gunmen poured a quantity of fuel in the car and hurled an incendiary bomb into it, which set the car on fire. A Beirut fire brigade vehicle rushed to the scene to contain the fire. Gunmen had several times before threatened Israeli fish traders.

Ba'th Party Official Receives Soviet Charge
JN271557 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, 27 Jul (SANA) — Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the Foreign Relations Office, received here today the USSR charge d'affaires in Damascus.

The USSR charge d'affaires delivered to Haydar a message from the CPSU Central Committee on the international situation and the USSR's stand toward the various current issues. The two sides exchanged viewpoints on all political issues in the Arab region and the world.

Damascus Criticizes Reagan's Press Statements
JN271545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan does not fail to make statements to the media and does not refrain from touching on any internal or external topic. He even speaks on topics about which he has either little or inaccurate information, and which are not related to his main topic of discussion. We are not concerned about the numerous articles in the U.S. press on mistakes President Reagan has made in his press conferences which later necessitated correction by the White House. We are also not concerned about the jokes concerning the U.S. President calling journalists by the wrong name.

What we are concerned about is what President Reagan says about Syria. In this regard, there is well known evidence proving the U.S. President's inaccuracy in speaking about the region's topics, and his prejudice against Syria in favor of Israel. President Reagan has described the Syrian missiles deployed in Al-Biqa' as offensive weapons that threaten Israel's security. This description is in line with his support for Israel and its position and security. Everyone in the world knows that the surface-to-air missiles are defensive weapons and are not a threat, except to the aircraft that come near their positions with aggressive purposes and aircraft that violate the airspace of the country possessing these defensive missiles.

Yesterday President Reagan referred to Syria in his telecast press conference, which was originally intended to discuss the situation in Central America where the United States interferes against liberation movements and regimes hostile to imperialism, feudalism, subservience, and colonial plundering. The U.S. President attacked Syria and said: The continued presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon and the strengthening of their positions there, and the presence of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon as a result of this, means that Syria and Israel are each slicing a portion of Lebanon. At the same time, Reagan defended the partial Israeli withdrawal and said: This partial withdrawal will increase the chances of persuading Syria to pull its forces out of Lebanon.

These statements by Reagan contain fallacies that deceive no one.Syria has not worked and will not work for the partition of Lebanon. It harbors no ambitions in Lebanon. It has announced several times throught its leader, President Hafiz al-Asad, that there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon if the Israeli invasion forces unconditionally withdraw from Lebanese territories according to UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509, without gaining benefits from the invasion and aggression. If there are still institutions symbolizing the unity of the state, people, and land in Lebanon, then the credit for this goes primarily to Syria. Therefore, why does the U.S. President make false statements, and why does he try to shift the responsibility of Israel and the United States to Syria?

The party that invaded Lebanon with U.S. approval and committed war crimes and the Sabra and Shatila massacres is Israel, which is supported by the United States and armed with various modern U.S. weapons. Israel is the party that refuses to withdraw from Lebanon, wants to lay its hands on Lebanon's water resources, and declares southern Lebanon an extension of its security as stipulated by the agreement of submission. It is Israel that is supported by the United States. What Israel now wants to achieve in Lebanon is an implementation of old Zionist expansionist objectives, which Weizmann declared at the peace [sulh] conference at the end of the second decade of this century, when he demanded Lebanese territories for the Jews extending to the Litani River.

If the United States really wants Israel to leave Lebanon, what has prevented it from adhering to the UN Security Council resolutions which call on Israel to withdraw unconditionally and without delay, instead of imposing an agreement of submission on Lebanon which transforms Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate threatening the security of Syria and the Arab nation? The United States knows that Syria has informed the Lebanese and non-Lebanese and declared through all its media that Syrian forces will leave Lebanon when Israeli forces evacuate, if Lebanon requests that by its free will.

President Reagan's statements holding Syria responsible for what Israel and the United States are preparing in Lebanon are unobjective, unrealistic, and unfair with regard to judging the situation in Lebanon. They also do not help the United States play the role it seeks for itself and do not constitute a suitable preparation for the mission of the new presidential envoy to the Middle East. President Reagan's attack on Syria indicates the real reasons behind the campaign launched by certain Lebanese officials against Syria during President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington. The partners in the agreement of submission want to divert world attention from Israel's role and crimes in Lebanon and its occupation of the Lebanese territory through an unjust campaign of lies against Syria.

However, facts are stronger than psychological warfare. The whole world knows that Israel invaded Lebanon. The world demands the withdrawal of the invaders. The world is also asking those who plan to impose their hegemony on Lebanon and to transform it into a star in the U.S. flag to take their hands off Lebanon.

Press Comment on Lebanese Anti-Syria Campaign

TISHRIN: Al-Jumayyil 'Threats' Futile

PM272121 Damascus Tishrin in Arabic 24 Jul 83 p 3

[Mustafa al-Faqir article: "Al-Jumayyil's Threats"]

[Excerpts] The current bloody events in Lebanon are the natural result of the bankruptcy of the Phalangist rule and the collapse of the "agreement" this rule wanted to use as a tool against the sovereignty and aspirations of the Lebanese Arab people and as a means to threaten Syria.

The Phalangist rule, which the invading Israeli enemy imposed with the force of tanks and guns, thought it opportune to abolish completely the genuine Arab Lebanon and to impose a Zionist, racist, factional, and sectarian Lebanon loyal to Israel and aligned with it in an alliance against the Arab nation. For this reason the ideas and practices of this rule are no different from those of the other racist and bloody rule in occupied Palestine, that is, war on Lebanese nationalists, the majority of the people, war on Palestinian civilians, and war on Syria through the shameful agreement.

As the regime once again felt helpless Al-Jumayyil went to Washington to beg, to instigate, and to make threats. Israel realized that protecting the shaken Lebanese Phalangist regime was costly for it in terms of casualties among its soldiers, a cost which was rising every day as a result of the escalating Lebanese nationalist resistance. As a result Israel chose to "withdraw" to "defensible positions," thus leaving it to Al-Jumayyil to ask for succour from the Marines. Al-Jumayyil did ask for succour and help, but the new thing in this situation was that he discarded yet another mask covering his face by threatening Syria, particularly Damascus, with artillery shells.

We do not know with what weapons and what tools he is threatening. Will the weapons and tools be American or Israeli? Or will he rely on the Phalangist militia and factional army as an additional tool that he will use against Syria within the framework of his alliance with Israel and Washington?

Al-Jumayyil, his militia, and his "army" are incapable of suppressing the will of the Lebanese people, who have given expression of this will through the establishment of a broad front opposed to the agreement and to domination, and have resolved to topple the factional regime and revive genuine Lebanon — Arab Lebanon, the twin brother of Syria.

How can he threaten Damascus? If by this Al-Jumayyil meant [using] the Israelis or the Marines, there is no doubt that the hand that will try to strike at Damascus will be immediately amputated because Damascus has the means to amputate any aggressive and invading hand. If Damascus were an easy target the Zionists would not have waited for such a long time and would have launched their savage aggression against Syria long ago.

Al-Jumayyil and his Phalangist Party are proceeding down a dead end street. Lebanon will not be partitioned or divided. It will not become pro-Zionist or depart from its Arab course as its enemies are planning for it to do. Lebanon will throw these enemies out, and the valiant Lebanese people will topple them as they are today preparing to fight their ferocious battle through the broad national front against the regime that accepts Israel and is hostile to the Arabs. The outcome of this battle is a foregone conclusion because the people's will is unconquerable.

AL-BA'TH: 'Threats' Not Harmful

JN280733 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 28 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Return to Threats" *Al-Ba'th* says: The recurrent statements made by Washington, Tel Aviv, and the Lebanese regime on the redeployment of forces are part of a media campaign that attempts to restrict the settlement of the entire Lebanese issue to one of partial withdrawal and filling a vacuum.

Al-Ba'th adds: Within the framework of this campaign, the threats against Syria have begun to escalate. The Lebanese regime, in the person of Al-Jumayyil, started this campaign of threats. He was followed by several Zionist officials and also by Reagan who renewed his attack on Syria.

If we link the attempts of the parties to the contract of submission to bypass the various stages in order to reach the stage of redeployment and the campaign of threats against Syria, one can clearly expose their real objectives in spite of the news blackout on Al-Jumayyil's talks in Washington and the talks Shamir and Arens are currently holding there.

The paper explains: They want to say that Syria is the obstacle hampering the peace that is coming to Lebanon, and that Israel's partial withdrawal is the first step of the implementation of Shultz' agreement. Their stress on this point clearly shows that they want to deal unilaterally with the decision and, consequently, to control the future of Lebanon in particular, and that of the Arab region in general. This attempt, however, has more than once reached a dead end because Lebanon is not the property of Al-Jumayyil, his family, or the Phalangist trend. Lebanon will also not become the property of Israel and Washington. The same applies to the Arab region, which has rejected U.S. calculations through the determination of the broad Arab masses throughout the great homeland.

Al-Ba'th stresses that the Arab masses' determination is embodied by the Syrian stand and with pride and dignity. If Syria, as the parties to the contract of submission claim, is the obstacle to their so-called peace, Syria will also not be the plain over which the U.S. peace may pass to Lebanon and the region. We, who are not supposed to be advocates of peace, do not oppress the people, plunder the resources, and disperse millions of inhabitants from their land in preparation for bringing it within the framework of the Zionist schemes of expansion and annexation.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Syria will really remain the obstacle and will defend its existence. In this defense it protects Arab existence, which is being threatened with annihilation. Reagan's threats will not harm its unswerving stand.

AL-BA'TH Scorns 'Factional' Lebanese Government

PM271418 Damascus Al-Ba'th in Arabic 17 Jul 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Who Rules Lebanon and in Whose Interest Are the Massacres?"]

[Excerpts] Following the terrible massacre which organs of the functional "government" in Lebanon perpetrated against the nationalist forces rejecting the "government's" policy, the contract of submission, and the Zionist occupation, the following question must be asked: Who rules Lebanon now and in whose interest is this war of genocide against the Lebanese masses being waged?

First and foremost it has been conclusively established that the "government" in Lebanon in factional and does not represent Lebanon and its masses. It has also been established that this government is linked and indeed adheres to special relations with the enemy of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

The massacres, campaigns of terror, and arrests which the "government" organs carry out against the Lebanese masses are undoubtedly the natural result of the contract of submission which the "government" is trying to impose on Lebanon with the help of the Zionist-U.S. invasion. It also appears that through these massacres the "government" wants to win the Reagan administration's total confidence, particularly since the "government leaders," Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan, and Salim are preparing to leave for Washington.

The "government" which has proved to represent only a particular faction — the Phalangist gangsters — still insists on claiming that it is the legitimate representative of Lebanon with all its factions. If this claim is true, against whom then was the general strike yesterday and why did the government forces open fire on the masses that came out shouting for the downfall of the government and accusing it of collaborating with the Zionist-U.S. enemy against Lebanon, its hopes, and aspirations?

The Lebanese nationalist forces yesterday declared with one voice that the visit of Amin al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan, and Salim to Washington is in fact in order to complete the conspiracy that began with the start of the invasion.

Since the factional "government" has undertaken to implement the provisions of the conspiratorial "agreement," it has actually begun to implement it in practice. The "government's" only concern now is to implement what is required by the Americans, the Zionists, and the Phalangist gangs that are seeking to impose their hegemony on Lebanon with the help of the Zionist-U.S. occupation.

The factional "government" would be commiting a fatal mistake if it thinks that it can subjugate the Lebanese masses and impose on them the will of the Americans, the Zionists, and the Phalangists.

In any case, the fate of any traitor to his people and the national will be no better than that of As-Sadat's. The will of the people shall remain the stronger.

Damascus Palestine Broadcast on Hebron Incident

JN272041 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Two weeks ago, Zionist Defense Minister Moshe Arens claimed that everything was calm in the West Bank and that the hurling of stones at Israeli vehicles would end soon. The Zionist minister wanted to tell the world that the Palestinian people's existence would also end. Just before the arrogant Zionist minister had finished his lie, the situation in Hebron exploded. The Zionist settlers stage armed demonstrations to terrorize an Arab people who do not fear death. When Arabs stab a Zionist soldier with a knife, the occupation army imposes a curfew and conducts arbitrary and mass arrests and search campaigns. Then, the coward Zionists restage their armed demonstrations under the protection of the Israeli occupation army and commit massacres against our defenseless sons just as the Jews in Hebron did in 1929 under the protection of the British Army. Those Jews were later expelled by the Hebron population.

What do the Zionists want? They want to expel the people from Hebron or the killers, as they put it. They want to Judaize Hebron, but the population in Hebron is resisting them and will continue to resist them until they expel the last Zionist invader from Hebron.

What is the PLO's role in this? This is a question which does not cancel out another one, namely, what about the Arab nation? As for the first question, we say: Zionists want to settle in Hebron and President Reagan, in his famous plan, announced that he supports this settlement policy. Moreover, President Reagan compares the presence of the Zionist invaders in the West Bank with the presence of the Palestinian Arab people, the legitimate owners of the homeland in so-called Israel. In response to this, the people in Hebron will resist the settlement policy just as the rest of the Arab nation until they crush it. We mean to say that the people in Hebron will resist the Reagan plan until they foil it.

Thus, our first question, what is the PLO's role in what is taking place in Hebron has become clear. By resisting the Judaization of Hebron, the Palestinian people are resisting the Reagan plan. Therefore, the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is required to reject the Reagan plan clearly, resolutely, and decisively. It is also required to reject the dialogue between the PLO and the Jordanian regime and any Arab regime publicizing the Reagan plan, the Camp David accords, and the contract of submission which is imposed on Lebanon. After this, the PLO must support the Palestinian struggle, which cannot begin except by purging the Palestinian house of corruption, weakness, and opportunism. These are the steps which are required from the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, The PLO, in order to prevent the sacrifices of our people in Hebron from passing unnoticed.

Shamir, Arens Open Talks in Washington

TA271157 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 pp 1,6

[Report from Washington by Ze'ev Baraq]

[Text] No pressure was exerted on Defense Minister Moshe Arens or Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during their first day of talks in Washington in connection with either revoking or cancelling the resolution on redeploying the IDF units in Lebanon. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his aides, however, made it clear that the United States would like the redeployment to be done within a framework of a timetable for a gradual Israeli withdrawal down to the international border.

Knowledgable Israeli sources said after the round of talks that lasted 5 and 1/2 hours yesterday, that the Americans would like it to be unequivocally clear that the redeployment is not a permanent "reentrenchment" along new lines, but only the first step toward a full Israeli pullback. They believe that such a clarification is absolutely essential in order to obtain the agreement of Syria and the PLO to remove their forces from Lebanon. The feeling was that Israel did not reject the abovementioned U.S. demand [derisha] out of hand.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir described yesterday's talks as "good," whereas Defense Minister Moshe Arens told reporters that "so far everything is all right. There is no room for worry." He emphasized that the Americans had not applied any pressure, adding that he did not believe such pressure would be applied later on in the talks. However, he added, the U.S. approach is that the redeployment must constitute one step toward the total withdrawal, and this position was made unambiguously clear.

The two Israeli ministers will apparently meet the president tomorrow, and before that confer with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. Still, even yesterday President Reagan had already addressed himself to the issue during a coast-to-coast televised news conference when he replied to the question on whether he accepted the argument that an Israeli redeployment is tantamount to a de facto repartitioning of Lebanon. His reply was: "No. I very much hope that if this partial withdrawal is carried out, it will be regarded and defined by Israel as one stage in the process of their agreement to withdraw. If their withdrawal is phased, undoubtedly this will provide better chances to overcome the hurdle presented by Syria and persuade it to fulfill its promise to withdraw if the other forces do so."

Israeli officials accompanying Ministers Yitzhaq Shamir and Moshe Arens were pleased with the President's remarks. It was clear that Mr Reagan is fully briefed on the situation in Lebanon and Israel's resolution.

Eventual Withdrawal Promised

TA280551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has pledged to his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz, last night that the IDF redeployment in Lebanon is the first step toward a full withdrawal. Washington believes that this undertaking marks a softening in Israel's position.

Yesterday President Reagan asked Israel to express its readiness to carry out a full withdrawal and thus help convince Syria to remove its own soldiers. Ministers Shamir and Arens will confer with President Reagan today for a summing-up meeting.

Shamir Assesses Initial Talks

TA280721 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Washington correspondent Rafi Mann, in Washington on 27 July — recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] Today we held long and exhaustive meetings on various problems. Most of the time was devoted to the problems in Lebanon, but we also discussed bilateral problems which are important. As for Lebanon, we explained in great detail the redeployment issue, and presented it as the first step toward the implementation of the agreement between us and Lebanon. We also emphasized the need for close cooperation in carrying out the redeployment between us and the Lebanese and U.S. Governments.

[Mann] Was the idea of setting an Israeli timetable for the period beyond the redeployment broached at today's talks?

[Shamir] This is not connected to the redeployment plan.

[Mann] Will you be carrying back with you some U.S. requests or proposals that would merit a government debate or approval, to be discussed upon your return?

[Shamir] This will be determined when we sum up the deliberations tomorrow.

[Mann] There were reports, prior to your visits, about U.S. pressures regarding postponing the redeployment or adapting it to the ability of the Lebanese Army to take control of the Ash-Shuf mountains.

[Shamir] There was no such pressure, nor was there any attempt to try to convince us to change our plans.

Begin Receives U.S. Congressional Delegation

TA270941 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 p 2

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday met with a delegation of 10 Congressmen from nine states in the United States. The delegation members, most of whom are Republican, asked Begin what kind of message he would like them to take back to the United States. He replied by saying that the most important message is that the United States and Israel are true friends with an alliance of cooperation. Referring to the political

issues, Begin noted that he is looking forward to the reports by the foreign and defense ministers on their meetings with U.S. Administration figures.

The delgates pointed out that their impression was that Begin is in rather good spirits. He was photographed with them and autographed the pictures. He also replied at great length to the questions they presented to him on current issues.

IDF Redeployment Preparations in 'High Gear'

TA272104 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2045 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 27 Jul (ITIM) — The preparations for the IDF's withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River have recently entered very high gear. The ITIM correspondent in the north reports that senior IDF officers conduct tours in the area which will be under the IDF's control, and examine major control points which will enable the forces to have maximum control of the area with minimum casualties. At the same time, actual work in the area has not yet begun, although the forces' commanders have already started planning the deployment of their men along the new lines.

The IDF's withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River will decrease the number of inhabitants in the IDF-controlled zone to 650,000. This is based on the hope that there will not be a situation of mass escape from the IDF-controlled zone to other areas, or vice versa. The ITIM correspondent has learned that in the framework of the IDF's withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River, the new line will be north of Sidon.

Lebanese merchants as well as Sidon notables this week met with military elements and wanted to know what their status will be upon the IDF's withdrawal, and when they will be located near the new border. The IDF made it clear to them that this is not a new border, and that this will have no effect on the course of their lives. It has also been learned that Lebanese merchants who live in territories which the IDF is going to leave have lately decreased their commercial ties with Israel. "The IDF is leaving and there will be nobody to defend us," they said. Merchants from Sidon and Tyre express great concern about the IDF's preparations for the withdrawal. According to them, the IDF's withdrawal is absolutely necessary, although the Americans do not desire it.

In the meantime, the IDF has stepped up security arrangements in the areas which will remain under its control. The center of fortifications and military works has been moved from the Ash-Shuf mountains to southern Lebanon.

Sidon Area Proclaimed 'Military Zone' by IDF

TA271216 Tel Aviv Hatzofe in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] Sidon, located 43 km south of Beirut, is from now on considered a "military zone," the IDF spokesman told reporters in that area. The spokesman made this announcement after reporters — both local and foreign — were forbidden to take pictures inside the city. When the journalists asked the reason for this new ban, the officer replied that Sidon will from now on be considered a military zone and that "military regulations apply to it."

Local correspondents there have meanwhile reported that the IDF has recently begun constructing fortifications and observation posts on the hills overlooking Sidon from the east as well as along the coast, and has also carried out mapping projects of the region. The correspondents claim that the IDF has also begun erecting a military airfield in the area of (Ash-Sharhabil Bin Hasna), a hill east of Sidon.

Will Remain Under Control

TA280549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Sidon will remain under IDF control even after the redeployment. This was made clear by a military spokesman in the city. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that there was a great deal of debate on this issue against the background of the density of population there, but ultimately it was decided to leave our soldiers there. The Sidon merchants are afraid of the redeployment because they do not know what the arrangements for traffic and business with the other regions would be.

IDF's Levi on Redeployment, Syrian Stance

TA271726 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1550 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Let us go to a news conference that Chief of Staff Moshe Levi held today. The chief of staff estimates that the new IDF deployment in Lebanon will decrease the service period of reserve soldiers. In the opinion of Lieutenant General Levi, the Syrians will exact a high price either financially or politically to leave Lebanon. Our correspondent 'Arad Nir report:

[Begin recording] [Nir] The IDF's redeployment in Lebanon derives from various assessments of the situation, the chief of staff said today. One the one hand, the assessments are based on the agreement with the Lebanese Government, and on the other hand on the situation in the area. Syria, the chief of staff says, is still a decisive factor in the region, although the tension with it does not stand out as it did in the past. A Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon will be made only after political and perhaps even financial bargaining.

[Levi] Since the Syrians seemingly hold the key to a solution, and since there are elements who desire this solution, the Syrians will try to get as high a price as possible in exchange. The price may be in financial terms — in dollars — or in certain kinds of political affairs.

[Nir] The IDF, Levi emphasized, is coordinating its moves in preparation for the withdrawal and afterwards, only with the Lebanese Army and not with multinational forces which will be brought into the region at the request of the Al-Jumayyil government. The chief of staff says that contacts are currently underway with the Lebanese Army to coordinate the moves of the withdrawal.

[Levi] We have the go-ahead to implement this plan and we are going to coordinate it. Since my assessment of the situation indicates that we do not have to stay there, then according to the rules of coordination and events in the area, we will implement this plan as soon as possible. [end recording]

Levi on Hebron, Egypt

TA271639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The chief of staff believes that the Jewish settlers in Judaea and Samaria must continue to carry arms for their personal safety. If there is an incident of illegal use of these arms, we will handle this, the chief of staff said in a talk with military correspondents. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that Lieutenant General Moshe Levi said there are as yet no conclusions or a certain direction in the investigation into the murder in Hebron yesterday. He reported that our border with Egypt has not been quiet lately, and that attempts are made in Gaza to trigger terrorist activity, but it does not seem that an infrastructure for such activity is developing there. The Egyptians try to prevent terrorist activity from their territory, but are not always successful in this.

The chief of staff said there is no rise in casualties as a result of terrorist acts along the contact line with the Syrians since the Syrians do not encourage this, although they are interested in terrorist activity. Lt Gen Levi said that the IDF takes into consideration the possibility that the terrorist acts will not cease after the redeployment.

Red Cross Transmitting Letters to POW's

TA271104 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Report from Geneva by Sari Robert]

[Text] The spokesman for the International Red Cross [IRC] announced yesterday that representatives of the IRC visited the three Israeli POW's held by Syria 3 days ago. The visit was conducted under IRC regulations, and the organization's physician was present.

The spokesman added that the IRC representatives conversed with the prisoners in private and brought them letters and packages from their families in Israel.

Sharon Interviewed on Cabinet Role, U.S. Trip

TA272036 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Interview of Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon on Moqed Program by Nisim Mish'al, Dan Scemama and Yoram Ronen]

[Excerpts] [Mish'al] We have the impression that you have fallen out of favor with the prime minister and your ministerial colleagues. Mr Begin does not give you any political task, or so at least we have read in quotations from you today. You spend most of your time on the farm and even enjoy that, you also said. Why, then, do you not resign from the Cabinet in order to work on the farm?

[Sharon] For years I have been in the habit of being in the center of decisions and central resolutions. Today, too, I try to influence the Cabinet as much as I can, but you must know that my influence is very limited after all, and in such situations thoughts of resignation arise more than once. At the same time, I think that there are very many problems which demand my participation in decisions.

[Mish'al] That is, you have indeed considered the possibility of resignation?

[Sharon] I said, as one who for years has been used to being in the center of decisions, I am in a situation in which I am trying to influence. My influence is very limited. There are very many people who believe that I should have an influence and can influence. I, myself — my position is that I certainly can contribute and influence...

[Mish'al — interrupting] Do you have an explanation, sir, why the prime minister...

[Sharon — interrupting] But excuse me, I want to go on. But in such cases, undoubtedly, one's heart can be aroused. As for your question, if you are referring to a report published in one of the papers, the report was incorrect. I also drew the paper's attention, even before it was published, to the fact that the report was incorrect. But in such cases a man can certainly consider. However, I also feel a duty toward people who believe that I must be in the Cabinet, and from my knowledge of the problems facing Israel, I am trying to contribute to the best of my ability in that limited sphere of influence...

[Mish'al — interrupting] But the question is, what is the explanation? Why does the prime minister not give you any task? You also speak with the prime minister. Today you met with him. Does it not interest you, why you are not given tasks?

[Sharon] I do not think that I have to answer that question.

[Ronen] Mr Sharon, on the one hand you claim that your influence in the Cabinet — in determining its policy — is very limited. On the other hand, you claim that there are very many cardinal [last word in English] problems that need a decision. However, on those cardinal problems you have almost no influence. If this is so, I say again, is there any point in your remaining in the Cabinet at all?

[Sharon] As long as there is a chance of having an influence, even a small one, there is a point. If another situation is created, the answer may be different.

[Ronen] Your confidants have claimed that the fact that you are not being given any task is what led you to consider resigning. Was that really the reason? For instance, do you want the post of chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs?

[Sharon] No, I would not like to go into anything specific here. I have not discussed anything specific. I have explained exactly. There are problems. I can contribute. I think I should contribute. I noted a certain situation that exists. As long as there is still a possibility of contributing to something, I will certainly do so. When another situation is created, I certainly can make another decision. This, for the moment, is the situation.

[Scemama] Mr Sharon, you say: My influence is very limited and restricted in the Cabinet. Why? Perhaps you can explain why your influence — you were such a strong man in the Cabinet — what happened for your influence to become so limited and restricted among your ministerial colleagues, and the prime minister?

[Sharon] Look, my personality has not changed at all; not my positions, not my personality, not my view — a clear one, in my opinion — of the situations, the solutions. But solutions to problems come when you are in a certain post. That is how it is built. That is, the Cabinet is built on the fact that people take on posts and within the framework of their posts, they have influence. You might be an expert on every issue, but if you are not put in charge of an issue, of course you cannot have any influence.

[Scemama] In that framework of affairs, Defense Minister Moshe Arens consults with former defense ministers and chiefs of staff. Does he consult with you?

[Sharon] No.

[Mish'al] How do you explain that?

[Sharon] I do not have to explain that. I think that is a question that can be put to the defense minister, but the answer will be no. We held one talk, once, at the beginning. Since then, that issue has not returned.

[Mish'al] By the way, the relations, according to what has been reported from Cabinet sessions — and, after all, this is reported inthe press — are there tense relations between you and Professor Arens?

[Sharon] No. Under no circumstances, no. The relations are those of friendship for very many years — and there is no possibility here — I would say you will not succeed, under any circumstances whatsoever, in introducing any sort of wedge whatsoever in the framework of these relations. The relations exist, they do not involve matters of work...

[Mish'al — interrupting] In any event, he does not consult with you, despite the friendship and comradeship?

[Sharon] I have answered you.

[Ronen] Nevertheless, at the last Cabinet session there were some quite sharp exchanges between you and the defense minister regarding policy in the territories.

[Sharon] Like many other things that are published, these things were not correct and were not exact. On this matter, I have expressed my views more than once, I have never had any complaint, I never have nor will I have, about positions and views that are heard either in the papers or electronic media. I certainly accept this. I have very much in my heart about incorrect reports, lying reports, incorrect facts, and this is a part of these things.

[Ronen] Let us go on to another issue, the issue which relates to Ministers Arens' and Shamir's visit to Washington. Yesterday you said that their trip is part of the process of our getting enslaved to the Americans. Is this worse than the time when you were defense minister?

[Sharon] Why do you misquote others' remarks? I did not view the trip as enslavement. I did not speak about the issue of enslavement. It was impossible to prevent the trip. If you ask me whether it seems correct to me that another country, even if we talk of a friendly president of a friendly country, an ally to Israel, the world's superpower — well, it is impossible that it be dictated to us who will be the ones to travel. I am sure that the Cabinet — that we would have decided to send these two persons to Washington, but the manner of the appeal to us is not correct, nor can they be informed to come on Tuesday. Rather, it should have been: Please send them over as soon as possible. It is impossible to conduct relations between countries by way of dictates: send x and y over, be they the most honorable people, and get here on Tuesday.

However, this is only a small matter, one among others. Look, it is good for a country to coordinate affairs, to share its considerations and problems with other countries. It is good to have as much coordination as possible, but it is impossible to survive in total subjection — impossible, and a country should know how to face up to this. There is no limit to this. There are things one can accept, but this has nothing to do with the foreign and defense ministers' trip to Washington. This is a different issue...

[Ronen — interrupting] This may be a symptom of this process.

[Sharon] Not their trip, God forbid, but the manner of the appeal can be defined as a symptom.

Bir Zayt Students Wounded During Demonstration

TA271515 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] At noon, five students were wounded by soldiers' shots during a student demonstration in Bi'r Zayt College. All of them are slightly wounded. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the college students had held a protest rally about the events in Hebron, and afterward went out to the main road and organized a demonstration. An IDF force tried to disperse them with tear gas and, when it was stoned, opened fire. IDF forces are now surrounding the college area.

The president of Bi'r Zayt College is trying to reach an agreement with the army so that the students will be able to leave the college area in groups.

Students Disperse

TA271822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Hundreds of students from the Bi'r Zayt College returned to their homes this evening after having agreed to leave in small groups. IDF soldiers insisted that the dispersal should be implemented gradually in order to prevent a repetition of demonstrations such as those this afternoon in which four of the students were wounded, two from the soldiers' shots at their legs and two others who suffered fractures.

The security forces arrested dozens of college students who are suspected of having incited rioting and thrown stones. The ITIM correspondent has learned that the two students who are suffering from fractures were wounded when running away toward the college during the shooting, and fell from stone walls.

Begin Asked To Permit Shooting At Stonethrowers

TA270943 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Text] Settlers in the West Bank have sent a message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, after the murder of the Yeshiva student in Hebron, with a demand that the firing regulations issued to IDF soldiers be altered so as to allow shooting at anyone who throws stones on a main road.

The settlers addressed the letter to the prime minister — not the defense minister — although it includes demands pertaining to the security sphere. They demand granting the status of auxiliary policemen to the Jewish inhabitants of the territories. They also argued that the "IDF has failed disgracefully and has forfeited its credibility and deterrent power in Judaea, Samaria,and the Gaza Strip." The settlers demanded that the stonethrowers be expelled to Jordan, or that alternatively, at a minimum, they be given prison terms rather than fines.

The letter also includes the demand to remove rows of houses in the refugee camps along the main roads, from which stones were thrown at Israeli cars.

Soviet Emigration Allowed on 'Humanitarian Basis'

TA271201 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 27 Jul 83 p 2

[Report by Yosef Wachsman]

[Text] The Soviet authorities have hinted to the visiting Israeli delegation that mass Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union is out of the question, but that requests on a humanitarian basis will be considered. This was reported yesterday by MK's Shulamit Aloni and Aharon Har'el, who have just returned from a visit to the Soviet Union. MK Har'el said that he listed names of dissidents, refusniks, and former prisoners of Zion who were denied exit — such as Ida Nudel — to which the official Soviet representatives replied: "We have noted your request."

As for Yosef Begun, whose trial was scheduled to open 2 days ago, the Soviet representatives said that the trial had been postponed, so there is nothing further to discuss.

MK's Shulamit Aloni and Aharon Har'el added that they believe the limit on Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, like the unprecedented anti-Zionist campaign being waged throughout the Soviet Union, is a result of the increased tension between the Soviet Union and the United States. MK Shulamit Aloni said that as far as she could see, most of the Jews (except for the refusniks) are not subjected to economic distress in the Soviet Union, but they do suffer from an inability to study Judaism and Hebrew.

Knesset Defeats Three No-Confidence Motions

TA271102 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1027 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] With a majority of 57 Knesset members against 53, the Knesset rejected a few minutes ago three no-confidence motions against the government presented by the Alignment, Shinuy, and HADASH factions. Our correspondent Yig'al Mishori reports that MK Yig'al Horowitz abstained from the voting.

Foreign Currency Debts Reportedly Increase

TA271941 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Here are some worrisome figures from the Central Bureau of Statistics: The country's foreign currency debts have increased over the past year by $2.2 billion, totalling $27.1 billion. This was reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics spokesman.

During the first 3 months of this year, the government increased its foreign currency debts by $387 million. This sum is triple the addition last year to the government debt. During the first 3 months of the year, the deficit in Israel's balance of payments was decreased by 7 percent. The decrease originates entirely in cutting down the security imports to Israel. Without the security imports, the gap rose by 29 percent, and a particularly large rise was noted in Israel's interest payments on its foreign currency debts.

Lagos: Lake Chad Commission To Set Up Patrols
AB270816 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Lake Chad Basin Commission has recommended that the lake area be demilitarized and a joint patrol team set up to ensure security among member countries. A statement by the Federal Ministry of Water Resources yesterday in Lagos said that the practical matters for setting up the patrol team would be worked out at a meeting to be held later. It stated that a decision has been taken by the commission to set up a joint team of national experts to supervise the demarcation of the boundaries of the four countries. The exercise, according to the statement, would be carried out by an international survey bureau after the necessary technical details, historical, and survey documents had been looked into.

As a result of the meeting between President Shagari and President Hissein Habre of Chad recently, a joint patrol team was set up between Nigeria and Chad. Nigeria, Chad, Niger, and Cameroon are members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission.

ALGERIA

Algeria-YAR Joint Statement on Abdelghani Visit

LD272348 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the FLN Political Bureau, returned yesterday, Wednesday, to Algiers after concluding his official visit to the YAR, during which he held talks with YAR officials.

Following the visit, a joint statement was issued. In their Algerian-YAR joint statement, the two sides expressed their full satisfaction with the high level of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of economy, information, technology and culture. They agreed to exploit the potential available in both countries to bolster and enhance cooperation between them in all fields and to continue the exchange of visits and meetings by the officials of fraternal countries on the official and popular levels.

The two sides affirmed the need to consolidate their efforts to clear the Arab atmosphere and cast away differences and insure unity of ranks and solidarity in order to face the dangers and challenges threatening the Arab nation in the present grave and intricate stage in its history.

The two sides paid special attention to the conditions in the western Sahara, the Middle East, the African Continent, Arab-African cooperation, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the African Horn area, the Red Sea area, the Indian Ocean area, military rivalry among the big powers, and the tension in the international arena as a result of the failure to solve many of the international issues and problems and the lack of realization of the desired international accord.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the success of the 7th summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement and its resolutions which help to ease world tension and safeguard the peoples' right to sovereignty and national independence and self-determination.

Foreign Minister Ibrahimi To Visit Congo, Angola

LD272352 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN Party general secretary, today received Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi on the occasion of his departure to the Congolese People's Republic and Angola on official visits.

As of today, Thursday, Dr Ibrahimi will begin an official visit to the Congolese People's Republic at the invitation of his counterpart, Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze. On 1 August, he will pay a similar official visit to the People's Republic of Angola at the invitation of his counterpart, Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge.

Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi will be accompanied on the two visits by a high-ranking Algerian delegation.

New Envoys Present Credentials in Algiers

[Editorial report] Algiers *El Moudjahid* in French 21 July 1983 carries on page 12 a 1,400-word APS report on an official ceremony in Algiers 20 July at which the following new ambassadors to Algeria presented their credentials to President Chadli Bendjedid: FRG Ambassador Heinz Droge; Bangladesh Ambassador Ahmed Masud; PRC Ambassador Lu Weizhao; Soviet Ambassador Vasiliy Nikolayevich Taratuta; Colombian Ambassador Herman Tobar Chaves; Mexican Ambassador Fernando Elias Kalles; Yemen Arab Republic Ambassador 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Ali ar-Ra'i, and Japanese Ambassador Munzoki Date.

LIBYA

U.S. 'Orders' Sudan To Send More Troops to Chad

LD271954 Tripoli JANA in English 1655 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 17, July 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. Administration has ordered its surrogate ruler Numayri to extend the scope of his military intervention in Chad by sending more Sudanese troops to help rebel Habre's clique in Ndjamena.

The official SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY reported that stooge Numayri today decreed a state of alert within the Army and appealed to African countries to follow his example and give effective aid to rebel Habre in his war against the legitimate national government led by Goukouni Oueddei.

This blatant call by Numayri, who is executing the orders of his master Reagan, exposes his provocative intervention in Chad's internal affairs and his subservience to U.S. and Zionist imperialism in Chad aimed against the progressive countries and liberation movements in the continent.

Accused of 'Terrorist Ambition'

LD272028 Tripoli JANA in English 1818 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Washington, Shawal 17, July 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — An American military official yesterday said that American military supplies to Chad were intended as a warning to Libya and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and that any increase in Libyan aid to the Chadian Government of national unity, led by Goukouni Oueddei, would be met by increased U.S. military assistance to rebel Habre.

Another senior U.S. official said he believed that U.S. aid to Habre, valued at 10 million dollars, would be sufficient to put an end to Libyan aid to Goukouni. He said that American aid already earmarked for rebel Habre did not rule out further future assistance, adding "we do not know what Al-Qadhdhafi will do in the future".

These statements reaffirm the U.S. Administration's aggressive stance towards the Great Al Fatih Revolution and its leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Reagan's administration and its satellites have decided to escalate their aggression and

provocation against the Libyan Arab people. This time, however, they are carrying them out not only by violating Libyan air space and territorial waters but also by threatening this people from its southern borders through the rebel clique, which is rejected by the people in Ndjamena. This clique is being deployed to provoke Jamahiriyah, deny the Chadian people's freedom and interfere in its internal affairs.

These hostile American statements against the Libyan Arab people also affirm the U.S. Administration's scheme to turn Chad into a military base opposed to Jamahiriyah and an imperialist base for striking at the African peoples. The U.S. Administration's terrorist ambitions recognize no bounds. Neither do they recognize the peoples' right to liberty. This administration is constantly poking its finger into all affairs, thus asserting its aggressive nature.

Libyan, SRV Foreign Ministry Officials Meet

LD271438 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, the secretary of foreign liaison, conferred at noon today with Mr Vo Dong Giang, vice minister of foreign affairs in the Cabinet of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the accompanying delegation. During that meeting they reviewed areas of cooperation and the means to develop it between the two friendly countries.

MOROCCO

Romanian Foreign Minister Continues Talks

LD271149 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat 27 Jul (MAP) — The fourth session of the Moroccan-Romanian joint ministerial committee for economic cooperation started its work today in Rabat, under the chairmanship of Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs; and Mr Stefan Andrei, Romanian minister of foreign affairs.

Mr M'hamed Boucetta stressed that this meeting is a new step in the road of existing deep relations between Morocco and Romania, and reflects the strong ties between His Majesty King Hassan II and Romanian President Ceausescu.

The minister in charge of foreign affairs added that this meeting is a good opportunity to push forward Moroccan-Romanian cooperation, stressing the importance of strengthening it, especially during a time in which the world is living through a crisis whose results are difficult to predict, and whose effects will inevitably concern the developed countries after the Third World countries have suffered a great deal.

Mr M'hamed Boucetta pointed out that there are huge potentials for the existing cooperation between Morocco and Romania through the integration of the economics of both countries.

At the end, the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs praised the level of bilateral cooperation between Morocco and Romania, and considered that the signing of long-term treaties in the fields of industry, fishing, and medium and small construction, contribute toward reinforcing this cooperation.

Romanian Foreign Minister Mr Stefan Andrei praised the existing fruitful cooperation between Romania and Morocco, and expressed his satisfaction with the positive results of the third session of this committee. The chief of Romanian diplomacy recalled the signing of the 19 September 1981 protocol agreement and all the agreements signed between both governments, stressing the wish of both sides to strengthen economic, industrial, and technical cooperation; and widening trade exchanges between them.

The Romanian official expressed his satisfaction with the bilateral cooperation projects especially in the fields of ports, geology, and minerals, pointing out some of the projects in which some Romanians contributed.

'Mercenaries' Attack Positions in Lemcid 26 July

LD272103 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] At 0700 on 26 July 1983, a column of mercenaries carried by 150 vehicles, including 31 armored cars, attacked the defense positions in Lemcid.

The mercenaries had moved at night from the south, setting out from Rag Labiad towards Qutayfah and Maghdar Sultan. The mercenaries waged their attacks on three axes towards Al-Qutayfah and Maghdar Sultan and the support points northwest of Mharfiyah under the cover of concentrated shelling and direct bombardment from armored cars in an attempt to penetrate the defensive positions of the Moroccan Armed Forces.

The mercenaries suffered an ugly defeat during this attempt as the Royal Armed Forces were able to liquidate the attackers and break their attacks. At 1100 the Royal Air Force intervened against the concentrations of the remnants of the mercenaries near Wadi Liqsayyir and Al-Qutayfah and inflicted heavy losses on them in men and equipment.

Following the defeat of the mercenaries in all their aggressive attempts, at 1500 they resorted to concentrated shelling, in particular against the southern positions of the defense line, in an attempt to recover the wreckage of three tanks they lost during the battle.

All the attempts of the mercenaries were foiled with the complete coordination among the elements in charge of the defense of the support point, the artillery, and the Air Force of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces.

The mercenaries' losses were: 3 tanks, and 41 armored cars and vehicles were either destroyed or damaged. Five Moroccan soldiers were martyred and 22 were wounded.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Denies Libyan Claims on Chad

JN271853 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Jul (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has, in a statement to SUNA, denounced Libya's false, fabricated claims that Sudan's political and diplomatic moves in rejecting Libya's intervention in Chad are a result of U.S. pressure and that Sudan has sent forces to fight in Chad. The minister described Libya's claims as a desperate means to cover up for its preparations and its troop concentrations to commit further aggression against the legitimate government in Chad and to attack Chad's northern areas which have been liberated by the Chadian people who are genuinely represented by their Armed Forces which are defending their legitimate authority, political independence, and sovereignty on the entire Chadian territory.

The minister said: This Libyan claim does not surprise us. The Libyan regime has accustomed us to seeing such behavior which is aimed to distract our attention and draw up a new plot. The minister also said that in view of the successive victories of the Chadian people and their brave Armed Forces against the Libyan forces of tyranny and hegemony, the Libyan regime wants to present to the Libyan people justification for its abject defeats in Chad. This is the cause of the Libyan claims against Sudan, the minister also said.

The minister pointed out: Sudan has been firmly committed to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states and has condemned and rejected interference in the affairs of others regardless of the source of this interference. This has been one of the pillars of Sudan's foreign policy.

Sudan, therefore, could not remain silent about the Libyan military involvement in the Chadian war. Sudan's respect for the principles contained in the resolutions of international and regional organizations has prompted it to take tangible action.

Hence Sudan's political and diplomatic moves to expose the Libyan regime's practices and its role of sabotage in Chad and other peace-loving African and world states.

Sudan calls on these states to take steps to stop this sabotage and prevent Libya's flagrant intervention in Chad. Sudan calls on the world states to render the necessary support for the legitimate government in Chad against the Libyan aggression in order to restore Chadian sovereignty over the entire Chadian territory and realize the Chadian people's aspirations for security, peace, and reconstruction.

Concluding his statement to SUNA, the minister said that in light of the Libyan claims and the ill intentions and plots inherent in them against Chad, it becomes more necessary than ever that the international community, particularly the OAU member states, should translate their commitments to tangible action and come to the rescue of Chad by preventing the implementation of an imminent Libyan plot against that country.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Commission

PM271457 Tunis L'Action in French 21 Jul 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Head of State Expresses Satisfaction at Positive and Practical Results Which Crowned Joint Grand Commission Meeting"]

[Text] President Bourguiba has sent Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the following message:

"I have learned with great satisfaction of the positive and practical results which crowned the Tunisian-Libyan grand commission meeting. I was deeply touched by your filial sentiments toward me and by the expression of respect and esteem which Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali conveyed to me. I appreciated the wise directives which you gave the participants at the commission meeting with a view to placing cooperation between our two countries on the right path — a path leading to interdependence and complementary interests.

"The conclusion of economic plans and the agreement reached on establishing a major channel of trade and on facilitating the movement of individuals is an eloquent illustration of this. This action will certainly evolve constantly toward greater harmony, solidarity, and real fraternity.

I am happy to observe this positive trend in our relations and am optimistic about our peoples' future and their march toward prosperity and invulnerability. I thank you a thousand times for this. May we advance on the path to the Arab nation's victory and pursue our efforts to build a common future. May God help you and crown your efforts with success."

Reports on Japanese Deputy Minister's Visit

Meets With Es-Sebsi

PM271458 Tunis L'Action in French 19 Jul 83 p 15

[TAP report: "Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Received by Messrs Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Mahmoud Mestiri"]

[Text] Tunis — Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Yazo Ishikawa, who is presently visiting Tunisia, was received yesterday morning by Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mahmoud Mestiri.

Following the meeting, which was attended by Japan's ambassador in Tunis Yoshisuke Takiguchi, the Japanese deputy minister told TAP that during the meeting he had heard an explanation of Tunisian foreign policy on the Middle East crisis and Tunisia's role within the OAU. The briefing, he said, also broached Tunisia's efforts with a view to building the Arab Maghreb.

With regard to the Middle East conflict, he said, Tunisia wants Japan to play a more active role vis-a-vis the United States for a just and comprehensive solution to the conflict.

Asked whether Japan would be participating in the UN conference on Palestine in Geneva, Mr Ishikawa replied negatively, without further comment.

Meets With Mzali

PM271502 Tunis L'Action in French 19 Jul 83 p 4

[TAP report: "Mohamed Mzali Receives Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister"]

[Text] Yesterday morning Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali received Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Yazo Ishikawa in the Kasbah.

In a statement to TAP Mr Ishikawa said that the conversation centered on an examination of bilateral cooperation between the countries in the economic and trade fields and of the action undertaken with a view to prompting and further stepping up this cooperation.

The creation of Tunisian-Japanese joint companies in economic fields was also discussed during the meeting, Mr Ishikawa said.

The meeting was also attended by Messrs Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary of state for foreign affairs, and Yoshisuke Takiguchi, Japanese ambassador in Tunis.

SOMALIA

Samantur Speaks to Assembly on Defense

EA271827 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The first parliamentary session of the People's Assembly of 1983 which is currently in session at the People's Hall here in Mogadishu last night heard a report delivered by the first vice president of the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] who is also the defense minister, Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantur. Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantur told the members of the continued provocative and naked aggression unleashed upon the SDR by the Abyssinian colonizers and their allies. The SDR defense minister further briefed the members of the assembly on how the intrepid Armed Forces and the general public have repulsed successive attacks by the enemy aggressors. On several occasions the SDR Armed Forces, supported by the general public, inflicted heavy blows and humiliating defeats on the enemy forces, said the SDR defense minister in his report.

Challe Samantur added that the Abyssinian forces, supported by foreign forces and relying on large quantities of arms acquired from a superpower, continue to whip up crisis, tension, and instability in the Horn of Africa while at the same time the Abyssinian regime continues to suffer major reverses. The first vice-president of the SDR told the National Assembly that the SDR Armed Forces are vigilant at all times in the defense of their territory and vehemently pledged to crush chauvinistic Abyssinia and humiliate anybody who attempts to violate SDR territory.

The minister briefed the members of the People's Assembly in detail on the ability of the SDR Armed Forces in terms of experience, discipline, and their constant preparedness to defend their country at all times. Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantur added that the SDR Armed Forces deserve praise for their continued vigilance in defense of the sovereignty of their country, dignity of their people, and fulfillment of their defense obligations.

Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantur, the first vice president and defense minister of the SDR, urged the general public of the SDR to give all possible moral and material assistance to the SDR Armed Forces so that they could effectively carry out their national responsibility.

The vice president answered at length some of the questions raised by members on the overall performance of the SDR Armed Forces in justifying the expenditure on them.

The head of the SDR Armed Forces education [as heard] division also answered several searching questions from the members who southg to know what steps the Defense Ministry is taking to ensure that the rank and file of the army are not only armed with modern weapons to defend the country but are exposed to the latest military combat tactics.

Radio Halgan: DFSS Attack Cripples Barre Forces

EA272245 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The attack on the bridge connecting the towns of (Lugh) and (Baidoa) by the 3d General Gabayreh Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces has almost cut off the loyalist Barre troops in the (Gedq) and Bai regions from their supply sources. The blowing up of the bridge by the 3d General Gabayreh Division of the DFSS wing on 21 July 1983 crippled not only the loyalist Barre forces but also general traffic to and from the national capital, Mogadishu. The latest reports say that the loyalist forces of Siyad Barre who are cut off from their supplies have appealed to Mogadishu to send them helicopters.

The (Yusuf) bridge is on the main road connecting the towns of (Lugh) and (Baidoa), 7 km east of (Lugh).

DFSS Fighters Attack Barre Forces in Gel Gudut

EA272250 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] At the beginning of this week, the fighters of the 9th Aynanshe Division of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] wing killed 37 soldiers of the loyalist Barre forces and wounded more than 50. Reports reaching us from the 9th Aynanshe Division of the DFSS wing confirm that in a surprise attack on the 67th Brigade of the loyalist Barre forces stationed at Dabad village in Ghel Gudut, the DFSS fighters killed 37 soldiers and wounded more than 50 others. The reports add that the loyalist Barre forces also lost one military vehicle that was burned. The 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS wing returned to base safely.

CHAD

AFP Report on Zairian Materiel Aid, Troops

AB272125 Paris AFP in French 1713 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 27 Jul (AFP) — A Chadian officer told AFP on Wednesday that Zaire has "made available" to the Chadian Government 1,420 soldiers, six aircraft for ground tactical support, and a "Hercules C-130" to be used for transport. The officer specified that the 1,420 men are "the final number" of soldiers in the Zairian contigent sent to Chad since 3 July, while the Zairian press agency put the number at 2,000 about 10 days ago.

The soldiers belong to the 411th Infantry Batallion and to the 31st Parachutist Brigade formed after the Kolwezi operation in May 1978 and are led by Colonel Amela Lokima who was in Chad from November 1981 to June 1982 when he participated in the pan-African peace-keeping force.

Up to now, their task has been to ensure security of the military base at Ndjamena airport. Besides their individual weapons — an American M-16 assault rifle and several grenades — they in fact only have an 81 millimeter mortar, a Land-Rover, and several jeeps.

The ground tactical support aircraft are made up of three French-made "Mirage 5" fighters and three "Macchi," which up to now have only carried out limited reconnaissance flights. The "Mirage," which is armed with 30 millimeter canons, can be equipped with two 30 millimeter "SNEB" rocket carriers and can each transport two 500 kg bombs. Their active radious can reach Faya-Largeau [words indistinct] Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei. But according to a former fighter pilot who is currently in Ndjamena, the Mirage can only remain on target for 2 minutes, and even then only if they find it immediately — that is to say roughly one out of every five times because of the frequent winds and sand in the region.

The "Macchi" only have an active radius of about 600 km [words indistinct], two cannons each with 150 rounds, two carriers for 19 "SNEB" rockets, and two bombs.

The Chadian chief of staff has acknowledged that the "Hercules-130" played a decisive role in the preparations for the counterattack by President Hissein Habre's government troops in the last two weeks ago. It brought part of the military equipment sent by France, including light armoured cars, mid-way between Ndjamena and Abeche which had just been taken by Goukouni troops.

For the past 15 days, there has been a lot of movement between Ndjamena and Kinshasa to bring food for the Zairian soldiers in Chad. Housed in the premises of the gendarmeries that has been freshly painted white and green, officers and men "eat" together but have not tried the Chadian food: millet balls, various sauces, mutton, [word indistinct], etc... They prefer to stick to their traditional eating habits — for lunch: cassava (which is made into their preferred fufu) with salted fish in palm oil sauce, tins of sardines, pilchards, and corned beef; and in the evening, red beans.

Known as great beer drinkers, they seem to sincerely appreciate "Gala," a Chadian beer that is "co-produced" with the Dutch Unilever group, whose slogan: "Gala, a taste of well-being," must reassure them about the conditions of their stay.

Although one does not see them as they were seen on the very first day, marching in the main streets of Ndjamena interrupting their military songs with battle cries like "Kanga Diablos" or "Simba Oye," one can meet them in the fashionable night club "Le Pacha," calm but dressed in camouflage, wearing the famous bigeard cap and ranger boots that seem uncomfortable and are better avoided.

France Delivers CASA 200-212 Transport Plane

AB272030 Paris AFP in French 1759 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 27 July (AFP) — An AFP special correspondent in Chad has noted that on Tuesday evening France delivered a small transport plane — a "CASA 200-212" — to Chad, within the framework of military cooperation with that country. This plane, which was built by a Spanish firm which used French equipment, was sold by the Dassault-Breguet company within the framework of an agreement reached when that company sold Mirage planes to the Spanish Army.

The plane, which ressembles a small Transall plane and has two turbopropellers, is fitted with a rear exit that descends like a loading ramp. It can carry a jeep and equipment or 27 passengers. Its active radius, 1,700 km, is relatively small for a very big country like Chad (two and a half times bigger than France) where refuelling posts are virtually nonexistent outside the capital. For example, it could not serve Oum-Chalouba, which is more than 800 km to the northeast of Ndjamena and where a contingent of government troops preparing for the "forthcoming battle" of Faya-Largeau have been concentrated; however, it can take off and land on very small runways and on any type of land.

The agreement for this delivery was reached last April during the visit to Ndjamena of French Minister of Cooperation Christian Nucci, that is, before the big offensive by troops of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

The Chadian squadron recently acquired two DC-4's, one of which is undergoing repairs in Brazzaville, Congo, and a DC-3. Zaire has put a Hercules C-130 at the disposal of the Chadian Government and this has enabled it to transport its military vehicles close to the scene of the fighting.

Calm in North, Incidents in South Reported

AB261845 Paris AFP in English 1746 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 26 (AFP) — While the military situation in northern Chad appears calm, travelers from Mundu, 500 kms (310 miles southeast of here) said there had been various incidents. They said that in Kelo, 107 kms (65 miles) northeast of Mundu, the national Chadian cotton company Cotonchad was attacked. Two guards were killed by the assailants, who emptied

the company safe before fleeing, the travelers, who are from Western nations, reported. They also said there was violence in Bebedia, another small town near Mundu, and that there were ambushes on roads in the area.

Meanwhile, Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said that in northern Chad, where forces of ousted President Goukouni Oueddei still hold the oasis town of Faya Largeau, the front was "calm for now." Mr. Goukouni's troops seized Faya Largeau from the government forces of President Hissein Habre on June 24.

Mr. Soumaila said acts of violence might occur in the south, a fertile region which is the breadbasket of the mainly desert nation. But "they are the act of bandits organized into armed bands or even of isolated individuals" and "have no coordination which would permit one giving general character to these events," he said.

He added that police and Army forces had a hard job in watching such "bandits" since they can hide in the brush, or even, in the south, flee across the border into the Central African Republic. He said that the major part of the government Army had left for the north and that this made "combing the region more questionable."

Libya and its local agents had tried to infiltrate this zone in order to destabilize the government but they had not succeeded, he said. "Thus we consider these actions common crimes," he said.

GABON

Chadian Envoy Brings Message From Habre

AB272150 Libreville Africa No.1 in French 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Gabonese President Omar Bongo this morning received Chadian Minister of Justice Naham Oudalbaye in audience. The Chadian minister was bearing a message from President Hissein Habre, a message whose contents were not revealed. Our colleague David Makasso met Mr Oudalbaye, who talked about the problem of national reconciliation in Chad and the delicate issue of the Aozou strip:

[Begin recording][Oudalbaye]Comrade President Hissein Habre has always called for national reconciliation, but this has consistently been rejected by our brothers Kamougue and Goukouni. Right now, soldiers of national reconciliation are fighting on the warfront. We in the government have never refused the idea of national reconciliation. That is why quite recently President Hissein Habre decreed a general and complete amnesty, calling on all Chadians to return home for reconciliation. Therefore, on our side we are always seeking reconciliation, but we have always encountered a categorical rejection from our brothers who are devoted to the Libyan cause.

[Makasso] Mr Minister, what is your position on the Aozou strip now that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has sent a letter to the Security Council reaffirming that Aozou belongs to Libya?

[Oudalbaye] As you know, the Security Council has sent this matter to the OAU. An ad hoc committee was then established to look into the Chadian problem. I would ask you to seek more information from this committee. I think since this committee has been informed about this matter, it will try to settle it.

[Makasso] Mr Minister, Al-Qadhdhafi has straightforwardly affirmed that this strip belongs to him. Does Chad have to negotiate on this strip that it considers part of its territory?

[Oudalbaye] On what legal grounds does Al-Qadhdhafi base his claims? No doubt he still thinks about the Mussolini-Navan treaty. But this treaty was not ratified by the French and Italian parliaments at the time. If today Libya is claiming the Aozou strip, tomorrow it will be a strip in northern Niger and another strip can be found in northern Algeria. This Mussolini-Navan treaty I have just mentioned cuts off parts of Niger and parts of Algeria from their respective territories. This is, therefore, a matter for reflection. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Addresses National Cadre School

AB280845 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] The first course organized by the National Cadres School ended at Legon last night. The closing session was addressed by the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings. He said the training of cadres has become necessary because the nation needs more and more citizens with deep understanding of and commitment toward the cause of the revolution. He, however, warned about the dangers such training poses and said these dangers must be consciously guarded against.

Chairman Rawlings said the first national cadres school will be judged not by intellectuals' postmortems but by what happens when they go home to their communities and work places. He reminded them that both their friends and enemies will be watching them if there has been a change in their attitudes. If these changes show themselves in your attitude toward people, in an increased ability to communicate, to share, to initiate, to examine, and reflect in a way which enhances the total welfare of the community, then your friends will see the value of the experience you have undergone, the PNDC chairman said. He emphasized that if these changes show in their increased ability to organize, to explain, and defend measures which will promote social justice, then again the relevance and value of the school will be proved. Flight Lt Rawlings urged the militants to question themselves, their attitudes, and motives because, as he put it, our greatest enemies are our own shortcomings. Among other things, they should show love to their fellow men.

The secretary to the National Defense Committee [NDC], Professor Mawuse Dake, said the NDC and its other organs have agreed to appeal to the PNDC to revert the Kwame Nkrumah Ideological Institute to its former status. He announced that arrangements are far advanced to provide a permanent building for future cadre schools. A resolution adopted by the participants at the 4-week course suggested among other things that Broadcasting House must be made a restricted area. Present at the ceremony was a member of the PNDC, Na Polkuu Chirr, the Nadom na [traditional ruler of Nadom district].

IVORY COAST

State Minister Receives Malian Official

AB271350 Paris AFP in French 0913 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Abidjan, 27 Jul (AFP) — It was learned from an official source on Wednesday that Ivorian Minister of State Auguste Denise, acting for President Houphouet-Boigny, yesterday received General Amadou Baba Diarra, vice chairman of the Malian People's Democratic Union (the only party) and minister of state for equipment. This source added that Gen Baba Diarra handed him "a message of friendship and brotherhood" from President Moussa Traore dealing with the development and consolidation of the ties between Mali and the Ivory Coast.

LIBERIA

Political Activities Ban To Be Lifted in April

AB272040 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The National Constitution Commission has announced that the ban on political activities in the country is to be lifted on 12 April 1984. According to the timetable submitted by the Constitution Commission, political parties would also be permitted to organize and register with the Special Election Commission on 12 April 1984. It said the Advisory Assembly members elected by the nine counties and six territories would review the draft constitution from 10 August through 30 September and submit its final report to the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government not after 30 September 1984.

The timetable further said the Special Election Commission would present the draft elections law to the PRC on 1 September 1983 for subsequent application and also publication into a decree on 1 October 1983. Also on 1 October 1983, the Special Election Commission will present draft decrees on the delimitation of electoral constituencies and the registration of voters to the PRC for its consideration.

The ban was imposed by the PRC government on 12 April 1980 after it came to power in Liberia.

Details of Election Timetable

AB271715 Paris AFP in English 1632 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Monrovia, July 27 (AFP) — Liberia's military government has approved a timetable for a return to civilian rule on April 12, 1985, Constitution Drafting Commission Chairman Amos Sawyer announced here today. Under the commission's timetable voter registration will take place in January next year while the ban on political activity will be lifted one year before the Army marches back to barracks — five years to the day it seized power. The two-month election campaign will open on November 19, 1984 and general elections have been set for January 20, 1985.

PRC Changes Government Purchasing System

AB261332 Dakar PANA in English 1348 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Monrovia, 26 July (LINA/PANA) — The purchase system under the General Services Agency (GSA), has been abolished by the People's Redemption Council [PRC], an official statement said here yesterday. According to a statement announcing the national budget for fiscal 1983/84 here yesterday by CIC [Commander in Chief] Samuel K. Doe, all purchases for government ministries shall be made by the GSA through the purchase order system on a competitive price basis in keeping with the approved allotment of the concerned ministry or agency. It said GSA would inspect and deliver such supplies to the requesting agencies under regulations governing government purchasing procedures.

The Ministry of Finance would only make payment for such supplies upon receipt of appropriate purchase orders along with approved confirming receipt of supplies by the government agency in question and the GSA. The statement emphasized that no vendor would be paid by government for purchases made by ministries and agencies by "letter of authorization unless approved by the director-general of the GSA and the minister of finance." It said the approval would confirm that funds for such expenditures "are available" within the ministry or agency's budgetary allotment.

NIGER

Kountche Receives FAO Representative, Chad Envoy

AB272015 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpts] General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, this morning received the FAO representative in Niger, His Excellency Auredela Etienne Gudebgo, and a Chadian delegation led by Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Assileck Halata. The Chadian minister of posts and telecommunications, who was received by the head of state after the FAO representative, told the press that he delivered a message from President Hissein Habre to President Seyni Kountche.

NIGERIA

Assembly Speaker Seeks Stronger Ties With Cuba

AB271222 Lagos NAN in English 1216 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Lagos, July 27 (NAN) — The speaker of the Lagos House of Assembly, Chief Oladimeji Longe, said in Lagos yesterday that Nigeria and Cuba should foster stronger ties because we share common historical, cultural, economic and social experiences. Chief Longe said this while launching the Nigeria-Cuba Friendship Association. He said that the relationship between both countries was cordial [words indistinct] are gaining acceptance in Nigeria.

Cuba's charge d'affaires in Nigeria, Mr R. Silvio Verra, said that the association would help in nurturing mutual understanding between the peoples of both countries. Mr. Verra said that the launching coincided with the 30th anniversary of the launching of the Cuban revolution against imperialists, adding that these constituted the apartheid government in South Africa and were delaying the Namibian independence. [sentence as received] He suggested that all the oppressed peoples of the world should team up to fight injustice and inhumanity.

Shagari Delivers Campaign Speech in Kaduna

AB270850 Lagos NAN in English 0756 GMT 27 Jul 83

[By John S. Elaigu/Peter Imemesi]

[Excerpt] Zaria (Kaduna State), July 27 (NAN) — The NPN [National Party of Nigeria] presidential candidate, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, yesterday in Zaria advised supporters of the party not to allow their personal differences mar the fortunes of the party. Addressing a crowd of supporters at the Baban-Dodo playground, Alhaji Shehu Shagari explained that the policy of the NPN made it mandatory for supporters to vote all candidates contesting election on its platform. President Shagari appealed to the people of Zaria Emirate not to make the mistake of voting for any other party in the coming elections except the NPN. He reminded them that if they allowed themselves to be misled this year, their action could no longer be seen as a mistake.

He announced at the rally that the disagreement between the NPN gubernatorial candidate, Alhaji Lazel Kaita and some members of the party had been resolved.

President Shagari said that the only way the people of Zaria could be sure of having their request for the creating of a new Kaduna state guaranteed was for the them to vote NPN at all stages of this year's elections. He said that the Fedeco would conduct referenda for states creation as soon as the elctions were over, adding that the people should be prepared to vote then too.

Addressing the [words indistinct] the premier of the defunct eastern region, Dr. Michael Okpara, dismissed some newspaper reports that Imo and Anambra would vote NPP [Nigerian People's Party] adding that the two states were solidly for NPN.

Earlier, President Shagari had told supporters at Funtua that the NPN would replace the present PRP [People's Redemption Party] government in Kaduna State with men of honour who would concern themselves with the development of the state.

He said that but for the goodwill of the Federal Government, Kaduna State would have remained static since 1979. When the president asked the crowd what they gained from the PRP government in Kaduna State, it responded nothing.

President Shagari urged the people of the area to dissociate themselves from some politicians he described as "worn-out old men who had been parading and begging for their votes."

Alhaji Shehu Shagari who assured them that Katsina State would be a reality, urged them to vote NPN.

If you like NPN, do what it says by voting for all its candidates for the elctions, he said.

Fedeco Meets To Finalize Election Arrangements

AB270908 Lagos NAN in English 0808 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Lagos, July 26 (NAN) — A meeting of federal electoral commissioners in the country was held in Lagos today to put finishing touches to the arrangements being made for the elections. The meeting, which was held behind closed-doors, was presided over by the chairman of Fedeco [Federal Electoral Commission], Mr. Justice Victor Ovie-Whiskey. Although the agenda for the meeting was not disclosed, the commission's director of information, Mr Femi Adewole, told newsmen that Fedeco had made all necessary arrangements to ensure that the elections were held on schedule.

Mr. Adewole said that Fedeco's insistence on the counting of votes at polling booths was a clear indication that Fedeco was not "being teleguided [as received] as it is erroneously believed in some quarters." He said that care had been taken to prevent rigging, adding that if a ballot box was found to contain more than the required 500 ballot papers, the votes would be cancelled.

The federal electoral commissioner for Bendel, retired Lieutenant-Colonel Ayo Ariyo, told newsmen that the meeting would be the last before the elections. Lt.-Col. Ariyo said that an internal arrangement would be made to protect electoral officers while political parties would be expected to make security arrangements for their agents.

He said that his recent comment that the elections might not hold because Fedeco was not prepared was not politically motivated "but geared towards improving the commission's preparedness."

A NAN correspondent who visited the commission's headquarters today reports that communication equipment were being installed for the collation of election results.

35 Accused of 'Paramilitary Training' Released

AB270806 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The 35 persons arrested by the Bendel state police on the 18th of this month for allegedly taking part in paramilitary training have been released on bail by the Benin chief magistrate court. They were granted bail in the sum of 100 naira each. The hearing in an application filed by the state attorney general, Mr Obeisin Obafeo, who took over the proceedings in the action lodged by the police against the respondents, was adjourned till August 4th.

SENEGAL

President Receives Ministers, Officials

AB270945 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The head of state presided over the weekly meeting of the Council of Ministers this morning. He later granted audiences to several individuals, including Djobo Ka, minister of information, telecommunications, and relations with the assemblies; Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse; and Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who delivered a personal message from His Excellency Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

The head of state also received Joseph (Keppa), Guinea-Bissau's minister of natural resources, who delivered a personal message from His Excellency Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of the Council of the Revolution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. The audience took place in the presence of His Excellency (Alexandre Nuness Korien), Guinea-Bissau's ambassador to Senegal.

At its meeting this morning, the Council of Ministers appointed Mamadou Seyni Mbengue, Senegalese ambassador to the People's Republic of China, to the additional post of ambassador to King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand with residence in Beijing.

TOGO

Soviet Solidarity Delegation Arrives in Lome

AB270826 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries arrived in Lome this afternoon. The three-man delegation is led by Vladimir Aksenov, a cosmonaut, and a member of the Presidium of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries and deputy chairman of the Soviet Foundation for Africa. The delegation was welcomed at Lome airport by Kounale Eklo, administrative secretary of the Togolese People's Rally, RPT, who was accompanied by Lassissi Dikeni Kerim, Togolese ambassador to the USSR, and Ivan Ilyukhin, Soviet ambassador to Togo.

Mr Aksenov told our reporter, Paul Agbojan Kovi, that his delegation has come to Lome at the invitation of the RPT, and he expressed his gratitude for this opportunity to visit. He did not fail to praise the efforts of General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the RPT, which have as their aim the strengthening of our self-sufficiency and the economic development of the country. Let us listen to Vladimir Aksenov's statement:

[Begin Aksenov recording in Russian fading into French translation] The delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With African and Asian Countries has arrived in the friendly Republic of Togo on a visit in response to an invitation from the RPT. In May of last year, a highly representative delegation of the RPT visited the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries. The meetings and contacts that members of the Togolese delegation had during their stay in the Soviet Union were an expression of the mutual interest in the future development of bilateral contacts, cooperation, and mutual exchanges. We are very grateful to the leadership of the RPT, and, more specifically, to the founding chairman of the party and president of the Republic of Togo for his kind invitation to our delegation to pay a friendly visit to your country. On behalf of Soviet public opinion and especially on behalf of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and all peace-loving (?people), allow us to convey warmest greetings to the friendly Togolese people and to express the esteem which the Soviet people have for the friendly people of the Republic of Togo. We express our support for and solidarity with the efforts of the Togolese people to consolidate their national independence and develop their national economy.

We are happy about the anti-imperialist path taken by the Republic of Togo and its support for peoples struggling against colonialism, racism, and apartheid. We refer here most specifically to your party's support for the struggle of the people of

South Africa. We are also pleased with the conciliatory role being played by the Togolese Government and people on the international scene in support of the cause of peace. I would like to point out that all the peoples of the world must struggle for peace. All peoples and every individual must help to strengthen and safeguard peace on earth. We hope that our delegation's visit to your country will contribute to the future development of friendly, cooperative relations between our two countries and peoples. [end recording]

Delegation Meets RPT Official

AB272010 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Having arrived in Lome yesterday, the delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries paid a courtesy call this morning on Kounal Eklo, the administrative secretary of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT], at party headquarters.

The three-man Soviet delegation headed by Vladimir Aksenov, a member of the Presidium of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries, exchanged views with the RPT administrative secretary on cooperation between the two countries. The (?visitors) were satisfied with the efforts that have been made by President Eyadema to establish true peace in Africa. After their visit to the party headquarters, the members of the delegation visited the port of Lome, where they were welcomed by Amouzou Kwasivie, the deputy director.

UPPER VOLTA

Foreign Minister Returns From Europe 27 July

AB280730 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Michel Kafando, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned home yesterday from Paris and Rome. In France, he led the Upper Voltan delegation to the preliminary meeting on Upper Voltan-French cooperation agreements. In Italy, the minister held consultative meetings with officials of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and with representatives of the FAO. He also held talks with members of the Italian Government and briefed them on some of our projects being financed by Italy.

ANGOLA

Soviet Solidarity Committee Begins Visit

MB271357 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Committee of Solidarity With African and Asian Countries arrived in Luanda the day before yesterday for a visit to our country within the framework of the agreements signed with the Angolan Association for Friendship and Solidarity With Peoples.

The delegation is led by Bakhodir Abdurazakov, a member of the Presidium of that organization and foreign minister of the Uzbekistan SSR, and was received by the chairman of the Angolan Association for Friendship and Solidarity With Peoples, Comrade Coelho da Cruz. The Soviet people's support for the struggle being waged by the Angolan people for their independence and against the South African aggressors was stressed by the Angolan official, who thanked Bakhodir Abdurazakov and the other members of the delegation for all the assistance which the the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With African and Asian Countries has provided us.

Commenting on the Soviet delegation's visit, Bakhodir Abdurazakov said that it was designed to reassure the Angolan people that the Soviet people are morally in solidarity with their struggle and support them in their efforts to halt South African aggression.

Dos Santos Sends Message to Castro on Moncada

AB271334 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola delegation to the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the attack on Moncada Garrison is led by Central Committee Secretary Lucio Lara. The 30th anniversary commemoration for the occasion in Cuba was held in the city of Santiago de Cuba, on the very site of the historical attack that heralded the era of armed struggle against the Batista dictatorship.

In Luanda, the political and cultural commemorations took place last night at the (Koma) Theater in the presence of the Cuban extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola, leading members of the party and Government of the People's Republic of Angola, representatives of the diplomatic corps and Angolan mass organizations.

In his message to Cuban President Fidel Castro, the Angolan head of state, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, underlined the historic significance of the Cuban revolution beyond the borders of Latin America. He said the commemoration of the occasion in the People's Republic of Angola was a homage to the heroes of the Moncada assault and to (?others) who have been shedding their blood in defense of the sovereignty and integrity of the People's Republic of Angola including the socialist options of Angolan people.

Belgian Minister Departs; 4 Agreements Signed

MB271038 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Leo Tindemans, minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium, left Luanda yesterday at the end of a 2-day official visit to our country. Shortly before departure, Leo Tindemans gave a brief press conference at the Fourth of February International Airport. The Belgian official reviewed the results of his visit to the People's Republic of Angola, and pointed out that it resulted in the signing of four agreements.

According to Leo Tindemans, the first agreement provides for the creation of a joint Belgian-Angolan commission, which will meet regularly to define the rules governing bilateral cooperation. The other three agreements signed yesterday by the Belgian official and our foreign minister, Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, cover the fields of energy, food aid, and rail transport. In terms of those three accords, the Kingdom of Belgium will provide assistance to our country in the field of energy within the framework of the mission that Angola has received from the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference [SADCC], and will provide equipment for the Benguela railway line. Accordingly, the Benguela railway line will receive 10 pieces of rolling stock from Belgium in the near future.

At the press conference he gave yesterday at the Fourth of February International Airport before leaving Luanda for Brazzaville, the Belgian foreign minister also noted that during his talks with our officials, particularly with Comrade Paulo Jorge, he had the opportunity to discuss the possibility of Angola participating in the Lome III convention. Leo Tindemans added that in the event our country joins that convention, which is still to be signed, Angola will receive further Belgian assistance.

This statement was followed by a flurry of questions and answers. Replying to a question by a journalist on what his government thinks of South Africa's establishment of a so-called state council in Namibia — an action taken in disregard of UN resolutions — Leo Tindemans simply said that Belgium's position is clear in this respect: The Brussels government believes that Namibian independence should be granted without preconditions.

Requested to speak on the situation in Chad in the wake of intervention by foreign forces in the conflict between supporters of the regime installed in Ndjamena, headed by Hissein Habre, and the forces of Goukouni Oueddei, the Belgian foreign minister pointed out that his country sees it as the task of the Organization of African Unity to find a settlement to that conflict which has claimed the lives of thousands of Chadians.

Finally, the Belgian official made a positive appraisal of his visit to our country, during which he was received by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the party and president of the republic. The audience, which took place yesterday, was held in Luanda.

Sao Tome President Makes Stopover Visit

AB271202 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] President Manuel Pinto da Costa of the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe made a brief stopover at the 4th February International Airport in Luanda on his way to the PRC. He was received on arrival by the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The two heads of state held an hour-long discussion in the lounge at the 4th February International Airport.

The president of Sao Tome and Principe is leading a high-level government delegation which includes Foreign Minister Maria do Nascimento da Graca Amorim. Their visit to Beijing will last 5 days.

50 Killed in 'Major Attack' on Railway

LD272306 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2000 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] A major attack took place yesterday in the People's Republic of Angola, although it was reported only today by the Angolan news agency ANGOP. Fifty were killed and 210 were wounded in the attack, which occurred yesterday in the eastern Angolan province of Moxico.

According to ANGOP, the victims were travelling in a passenger train which detonated a mine planted along the line. The incident took place between Luena and (?Leua), 16 kilometers from the capital of Moxico Province. Most of the wounded were taken to the hospitals of Luena, formerly Luso, and Luanda.

The Angolan agency added that this attack is part of a policy of destabilization pursued by South Africa against civilian and economic targets inside the People's Republic of Angola.

Reports on Crash of MIG-21 in Southern Province

Government Notes 'Accident'

MB270624 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] A MIG-21 aircraft belonging to our Air Force crashed on 24 July [date as heard] while on a training exercise over the town of (?Lubango). A communique from our Defense Ministry says that the accident resulted in the death of the pilot, injuries to some soldiers who were at the scene of the accident, and the destruction of the aircraft.

UNITA Claims Responsibility

FL271808 Bridgetown CANA in English 1752 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Lisbon, July 27, CANA-REUTER — Angolan guerrillas said today they shot down a Soviet-built MIG 21 aircraft killing its Cuban pilot in southern Angola.

In a communique, UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) said the MIG, carrying a ground-to-air missile, was shot down 15 km (nine miles) outside the city of Lubango on July 26.

UNITA, which has been fighting Angola's Marxist government since independence from Portugal in 1975, named the pilot as Captain Hernandez.

Several thousand Cuban troops are stationed in Angola to help government troops fight guerrillas and incursions by South Africa, Angola says.

MOZAMBIQUE

State Secretary Attends DPRK Reception

MB271213 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The secretary of state for defense, Tomas Augusto Salomao, said in Maputo yesterday that Mozambique would like to see a single Korean nation come about through peaceful reunification. Tomas Augusto Salomao represented the Mozambique Government at a reception hosted by the DPRK ambassador on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the great victory of the Korean people in the struggle for the liberation of their fatherland.

The DPRK diplomat said that the victory in the Korean liberation war under the leadership of President Kim Il-song is proof that the invincibility of imperialism is merely a myth. He added that imperialism is still present in the southern part of Korea, where it promotes acts of aggression against the DPRK. He demanded the withdrawal of foreign troops based in South Korea and the peaceful reunification of the Korean fatherland.

Resistance Leader Predicts 'Decisive Attack'

MB280714 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] The leader of the Mozambique Resistance Movement, Afonso Dhlakama, says the government of President Samora Machel is close to collapse, and that the resistance forces are poised to make a decisive attack. He said in a television program that it could be accepted that a final victory of the Resistance Movement was very near because the population of Mozambique supported the movement enthusiastically. He said the forces were not far from Maputo, and that 9 of the 10 provinces in Mozambique were involved in the struggle. Resistance Movement forces estimated at about 10,000 were being transformed into a party of government. Mr Dhlakama said the final attack would be carried out once the movement was absolutely ready to take over the Government of Mozambique. Once in power it would allow political parties and introduce free enterprise into the economy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Lesotho, S. African Military Men Released

MB271656 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs and Information has announced that Warrant Officer Sello, who had been detained in Lesotho, has been released by the Lesotho authorities and is back in South Africa.

Investigation into the circumstances leading to the arrest of a member of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force, Private Maselele, who had entered South Africa illegally, has been completed. He has been released and is on his way back to Lesotho.

Exchange May Improve Relations

MB280913 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] There is a new hope that relations between Lesotho and South Africa are set to improve. This follows a dramatic exchange of prisoners between the two countries yesterday. Lesotho has released a South African police officer, D.T.Sello, in exchange for a member of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force, Sebata Maselele. Sello was arrested by Lesotho police on 12 June, while Maselele was detained 2 weeks ago after allegedly entering South Africa illegally. Negotiations for the exchange of prisoners have been conducted at top diplomatic levels and senior police officers of both countries attended the exchange at the Maseru border post yesterday. Sello's arrest caused a major row between Lesotho and South Africa which culminated in the announcement last week that South Africa would impose strict border controls. Lesotho's information minister, Desmond Sixishe, is quoted as saying that he hoped the successful exchange of prisoners would lead to talks between the two countries on security issues. The talks on the prisoners were the first between the two countries in 6 weeks.

Eight Ciskeian Detainees Denied Release

MB271200 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Applications for the release of eight detainees in Ciskei have been dismissed with costs in the Ciskeian Supreme Court by Mr Justice B. de V. Pickard. Among those in detention are the former chief of the Ciskeian Defense Force, Lieutenant General Charles Sebe, and several police and Army officers.

ZIMBABWE

Leaflets Invite Dissidents To Surrender

MB261838 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] ZIANA quotes a police spokesman as saying leaflets inviting dissidents to surrender, which were distributed around Antelope Mine in the (Kezi) area, are authentic and are being issued by the police headquarters in Harare.

In an interview, the spokesman said it had been decided to distribute the leaflets because it had been discovered that many dissidents who were forced to join were eager to return to normal life. The spokesman said the fact that the leaflets were being dropped around the Antelope Mine area does not necessarily mean that it is the area most affected by the dissident menace.

The dissidents returning who wished to surrender have been asked to do so as soon as possible, because the amnesty will be phased out very soon. The spokesman assured those who would surrender that they would not be harmed, adding that they should hide their weapons at places they would remember and then report to any police station or camp of the Zimbabwean National Army.

New Land Acquisition Measures Announced

MB271826 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] [Words indistinct] Commercial Farmers Union in Harare today, Comrade Mahachi [minister of lands, resettlement, and rural development] said a new land acquisition bill will be introduced that will enable the government to acquire land that is left idle. He said the Land Tenure Law will be revised to enable the establishment of a single land tenure system with no discriminatory rights.

Cormade Mahachi appealed to farmers to cooperate with the government, as these new measures are aimed at protecting the socialist program. He said cooperatives should be encouraged in the communal lands.

Addressing the same meeting, the minister of labor and social services, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, assured the farmers that the new industrial relations labor bill is aimed at safeguarding the interests of the worker and employer.

Radio Truth on Alleged RSA Destabilization

MB271552 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] The member countries of the SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] are planning a counter to alleged South African destabilization [words indistinct]. According to Arthur Blumeris, who holds the title of executive secretary, South African destabilization is costing Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe millions of dollars a day. Such statements made by people who ought to know better to people who [words indistinct] positively dangerous not to South Africa but to themselves. It is not our place to defend South Africa, nor do we intend to. But it is our place to highlight the insanities of statements such as this by Mr Blumeris.

For a start, and taking [words indistinct] as an example, if Pretoria really wants to destabilize Zimbabwe, surely the easiest and quickest way would be to close the border between the two countries. Such an act by Pretoria would bring Zimbabwe to its knees in about 5 days and, as quickly, put paid to paint Robert Mugabe and his [word indistinct] ZANU-PF party. Or South Africa could leave the border open but stifle rail traffic from South Africa to Zimbabwe. There would be a master stroke of destabilization for you.

As for the millions of dollars a day being lost to the three countries already mentioned because of this alleged destabilization, all we can say is, prove it. [Words indistinct] here [words indistinct] on these statements because to the [words indistinct] we cannot see how South Africa and not the countries themselves could be run this long. South African-owned companies still operate in Zimbabwe, contributing to and not diminishing [words indistinct]. South Africa is still Zimbabwe's biggest trading partner, trains and rail traffic between these two countries continue apace. South Africa has not severed telecommunication links between the two countries, nor has the Republic stopped the access and the [word indistinct] to Zimbabweans in the Republic. Zimbabweans in South Africa on holiday or on business are free to go where they like without fear of being beaten up or arrested by the police or the Army. Could the same be said for South African tourists in Zimbabwe today?

Before we [word indistinct] again we say, prove South Africa's alleged destabilization to the satisfaction of the world. In the event [word indistinct] my inclination is to look at the [word indistinct] keys to destabilization, and to study the process of nationalization, socialization, and communisation now taking place.

Ask a few questions from the few remaining whites whose knowledge and experience has for so long been to serve the state, and has been for 3 years denigrated and insulted. Ask the whites and blacks now stealing away from the country before the final clash comes. They [words indistinct] be only too happy to tell you what is wrong with Zimbabwe. Ask the thousands of political detainees, ask the leaders in the [word indistinct] Matabeleland, ask the businessmen and the farmers, who now operate well into the red because of the regime's failure. And finally, ask yourself. You are supposed to be an intelligent man.